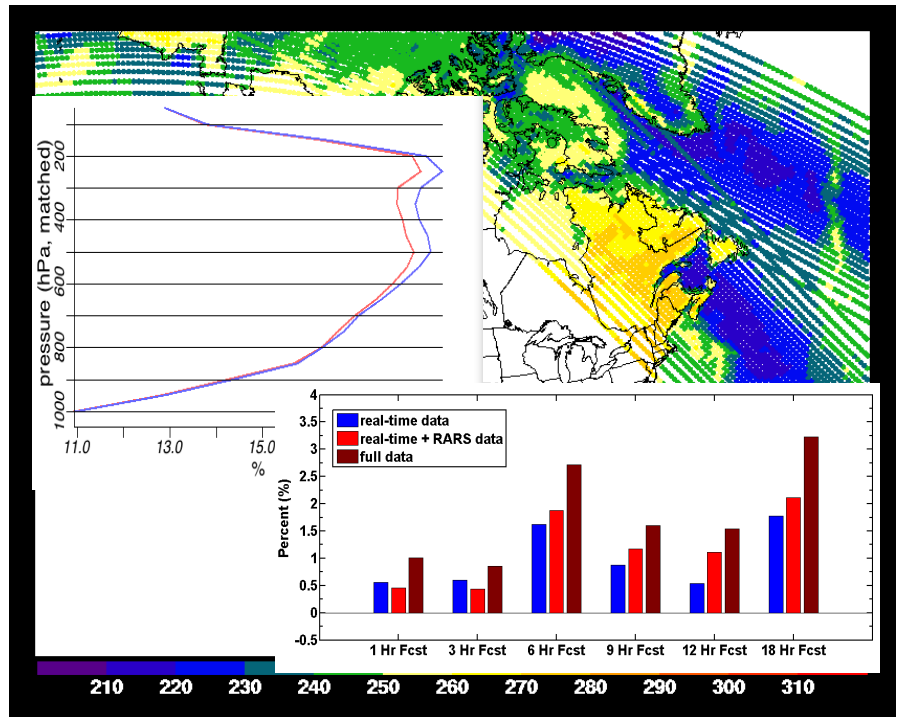


# Evaluation of satellite data assimilation impacts on mesoscale environment fields within the hourly cycled Rapid Refresh

**Haidao Lin**  
**Steve Weygandt**  
**Ming Hu**  
**Stan Benjamin**  
**Curtis Alexander**

**Assimilation and Modeling Branch**  
**Global Systems Division**  
**NOAA Earth System Research Lab**  
**Boulder, CO**

**Cooperative Institute for**  
**Research in the Atmosphere**  
**Colorado State University**



# Presentation Outline

1. Background on Rapid Refresh (RAP) system
2. Background on regional radiance assimilation
  - satellite data types (geo / LEO, IR / microwave)
  - bias correction, channel selection, latency
3. Satellite radiance experiments
  - **AIRS and GOES impact in RAP (retrospective)**
    - upper air and precipitation verification
  - **Sensitivity to data latency (retrospective)**
    - upper air and precipitation verification
  - **Real-time radiance impact in RAP**
    - upper air verification and Impact on HRRR (retro)
4. Summary and future work

# Background on **Rapid Refresh**

## *NOAA/NCEP's hourly updated model*

### **RAP version 1 -- NCEP since Spring 2012**

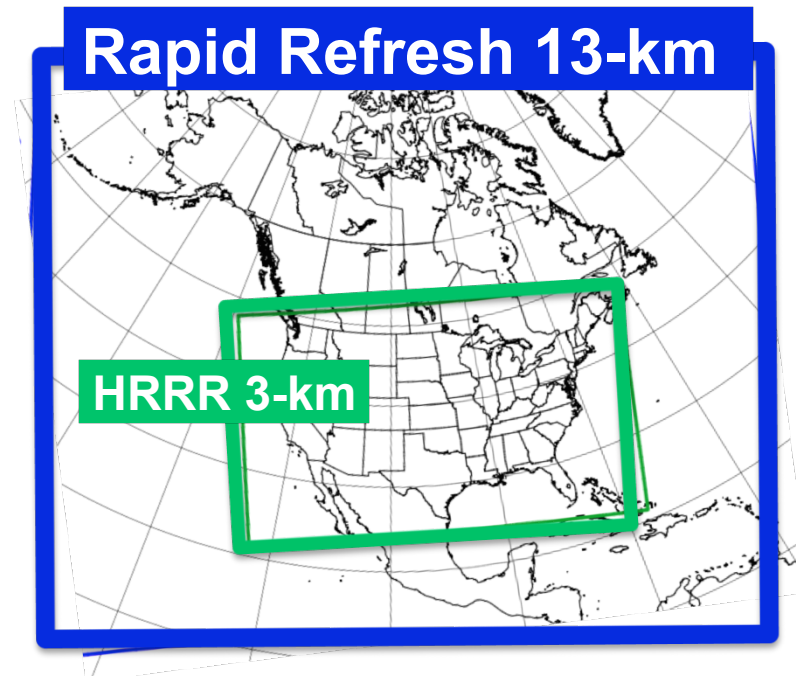
- **Advanced community codes** (ARW model, GSI analysis)
  - **Key features for short-range “situational awareness” application** (cloud analysis, radar DFI assimilation)
- ➔ RAP guidance for aviation, severe weather, energy applications

### **RAP version 2 --**

**implemented NCEP 25 Feb. 2014**

- **DA enhancements** (Hybrid – EnKF using global ensemble)
- **Model enhancements** (MYNN PBL, 9-layer LSM)

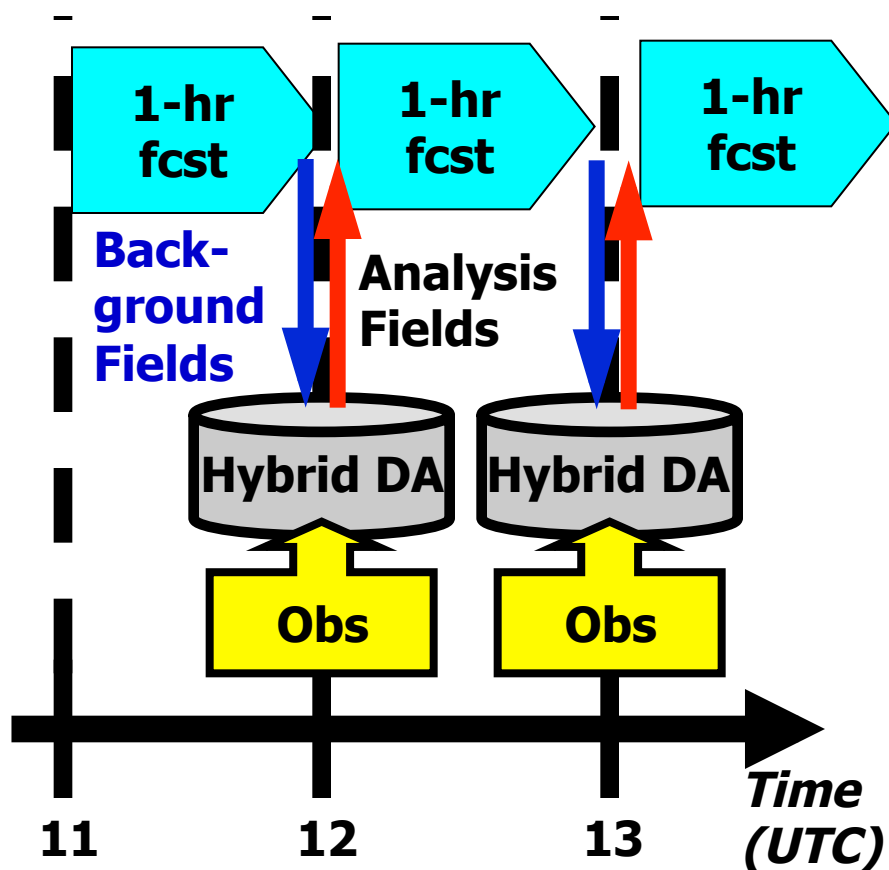
**RAP version 3 -- free for GSD summer evaluation**



# Rapid Refresh Hourly Update Cycle

Partial cycle atmospheric fields –  
introduce GFS information 2x/day

Fully cycle all land-sfc fields



## Observations Used

Hourly Observations	RAP 2014 N. Amer
Rawinsonde (T,V,RH)	120
Profiler – NOAA Network (V)	21
Profiler – 915 MHz (V, Tv)	25
Radar – VAD (V)	125
Radar reflectivity - CONUS	1km
<b>Lightning (proxy reflectivity)</b>	<b>NLDN, GLD360</b>
Aircraft (V,T)	2-15K
Aircraft - WVSS (RH)	0-800
Surface/METAR (T,Td,V,ps,cloud, vis, wx)	2200- 2500
Buoys/ships (V, ps)	200-400
GOES AMVs (V)	2000- 4000
AMSU/HIRS/MHS radiances	Used
GOES cloud-top press/temp	13km
GPS – Precipitable water	260
WindSat scatterometer	2-10K

# Radiance Data

- **AMSUA** (used in operational RAP)

- Temperature and moisture information

- **MHS** (used in operational RAP)

- Temperature and moisture information

- **HIRS4** (used in operational RAP)

- Temperature information
- Moisture information (channels 10-12)

Challenge to  
show impact  
from radiance  
assimilation  
within the  
“full mix of  
observations”

---

- **AIRS** (not in operational RAP, testing data)

- High vertical resolution (hyperspectral)
- Temperature and moisture information

- **GOES** (not in operational RAP, in RAP V3)

- Temperature and moisture information
- Good hourly real-time coverage

Measure  
improvement  
in upper-air  
verification  
and sensible  
weather

# Radiance Assimilation for RAP

## Challenges for regional, rapid updating radiance assimilation

- **Bias correction**

- Sophisticated cycled predictive bias correction in GSI
- Spin-up period, complicated by non-uniform data coverage

- **Channel Selection**

- Many channels sense at levels near RAP model top (10 mb)
- Use of these high peaking channel can degrade forecast
- Jacobian / adjoint analysis to select channels for exclusion

- **Data availability issues for real-time use**

- Rapid updating regional models: short data cut-off, small domain
- Above combined with large data latency → little data availability
- Complicates bias correction, partial cycle assimilation options

# Variational Satellite Bias Correction in GSI

$$J(x, \beta) = \frac{1}{2} (x - x_b)^T B^{-1} (x - x_b) + \frac{1}{2} (\beta - \beta_b)^T B_\beta^{-1} (\beta - \beta_b) \\ + \frac{1}{2} [y - \tilde{H}(x, \beta)]^T R^{-1} [y - \tilde{H}(x, \beta)]$$

$\tilde{B}_\beta$  Bias parameter background error covariance matrix

$$\tilde{H}(x, \beta) = H(x) + \sum_{i=0}^N \beta_i p_i(x) + b^{scan}$$

Observation  
Operator (CRTM)

Air mass bias

Angle bias

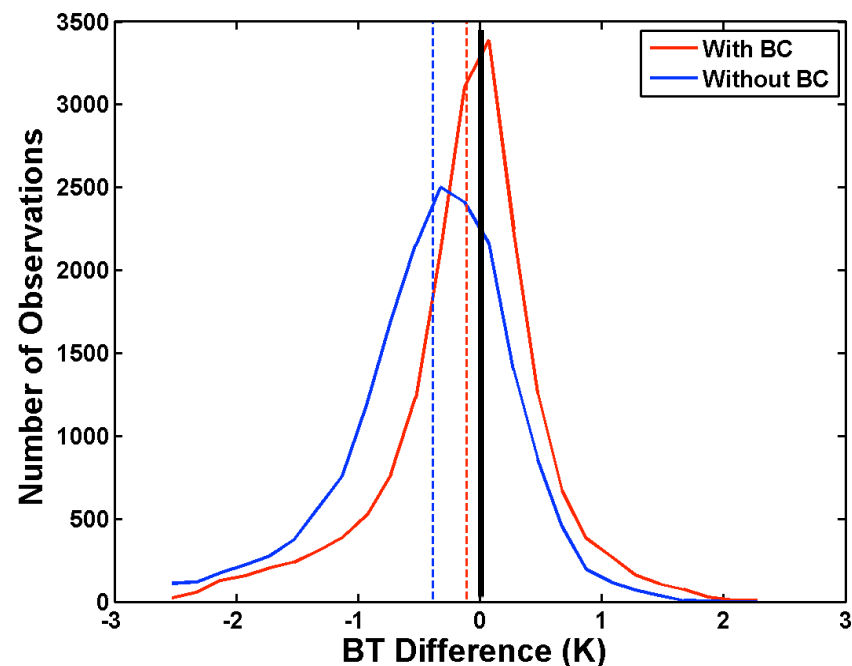
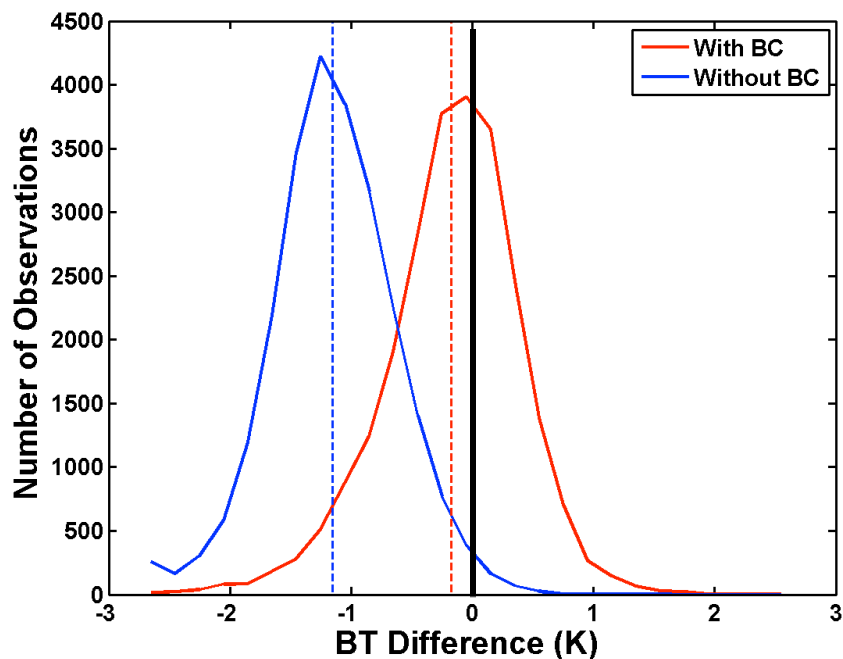
$\beta_i$  are the coefficients of predictors (updated at every cycle)

$p_i$  = predictors

{ mean constant (global offset)  
scan angle  
cloud liquid water (for microwave)  
square of T lapse rate  
T lapse rate

(Derber et al., 1991, Derber and Wu, 1998)

# AIRS Bias Correction Assessment



 **Before BC**

 **After BC**

channel 252 (CO<sub>2</sub> channel  
~672h Pa

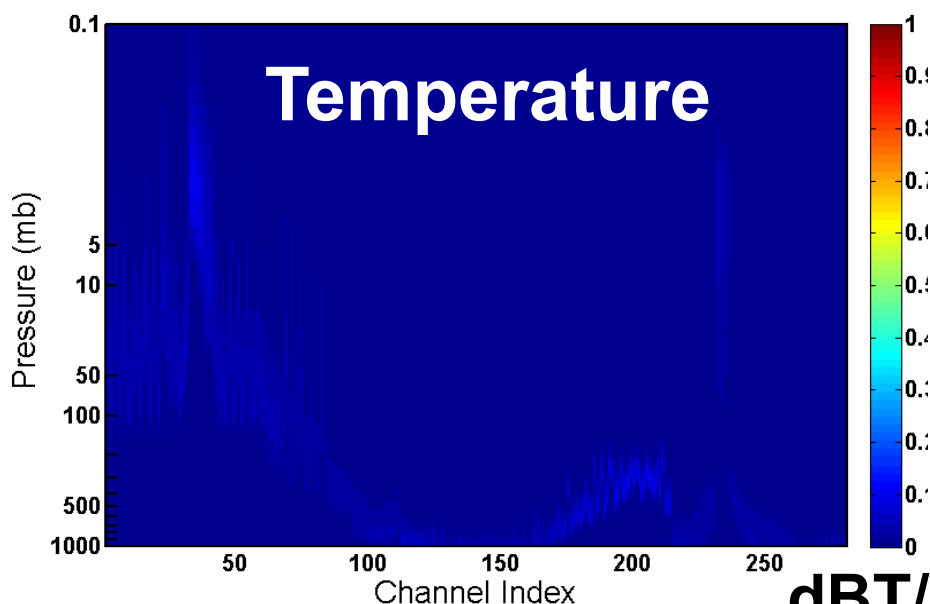
Channel 1382 (water vapor  
channel ~866 hPa

9 day retro run averaged

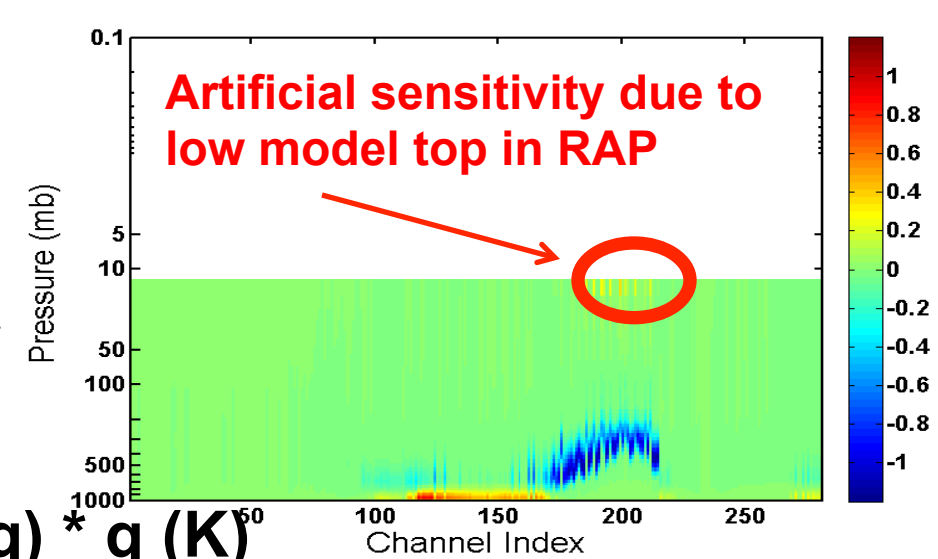
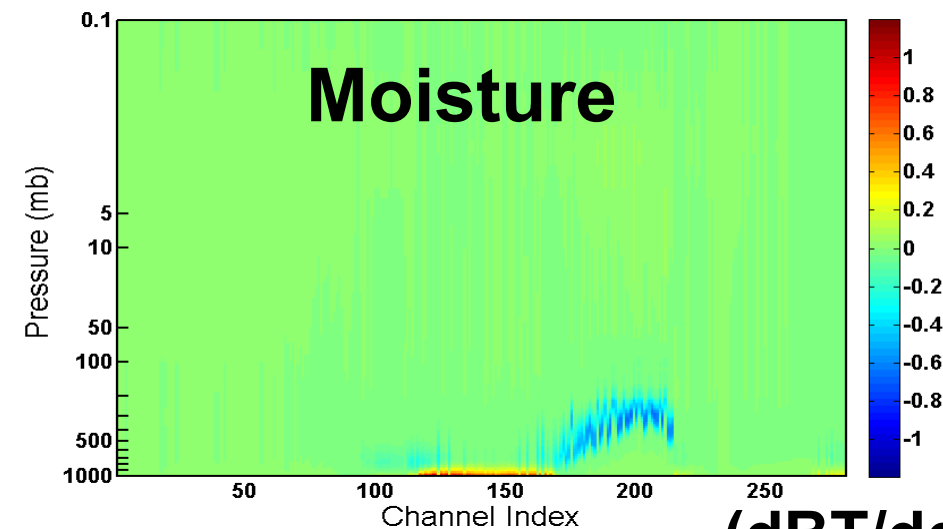
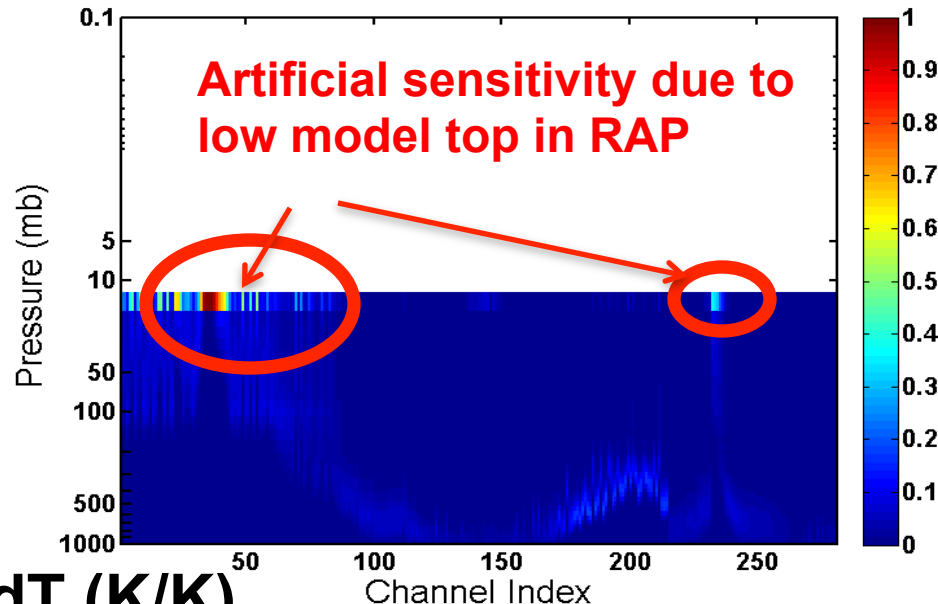


# Satellite Channel Selection for RAP

Standard profile (0.01 hPa top)



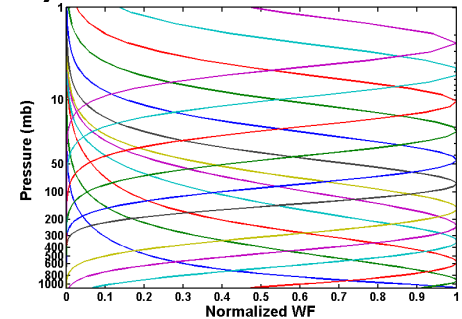
RAP profile (10 hPa top)



# Radiance Channels Selected for RAP

- **AMSU-A** (remove high-peaking channels)

- metop-a: channels 1-6, 8-10, 15
- noaa\_n15: channels 1-10, 15
- noaa\_n18: channels 1-8, 10,15
- noaa\_n19: channels 1-7, 9-10,15



- **HIRS4** (remove high-peaking and ozone channels)

- metop-a: channels: 4-8, 10-15

- **MHS**

- noaa\_n18, metop-a: channels 1-5;

-----

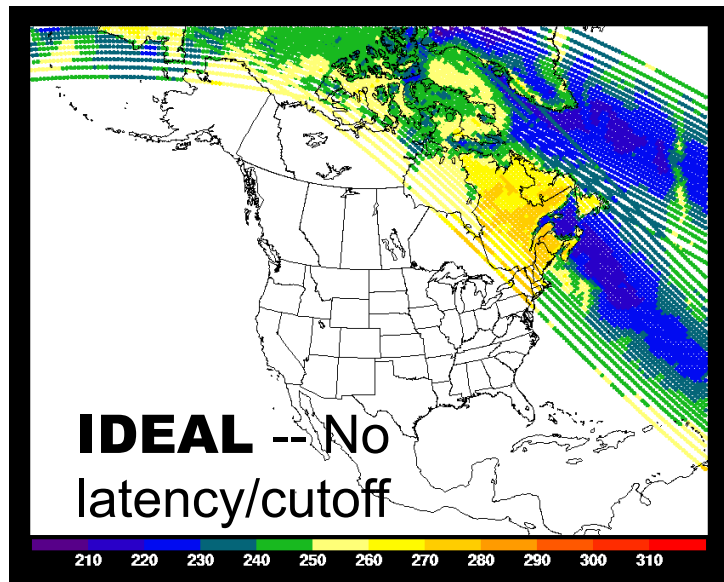
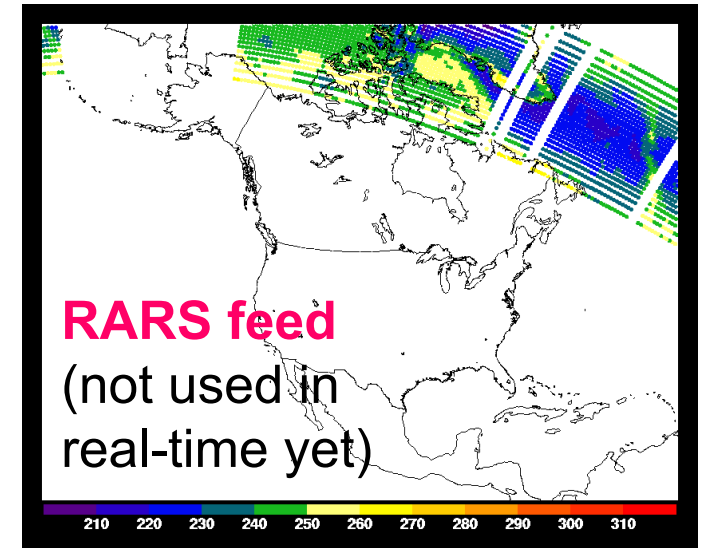
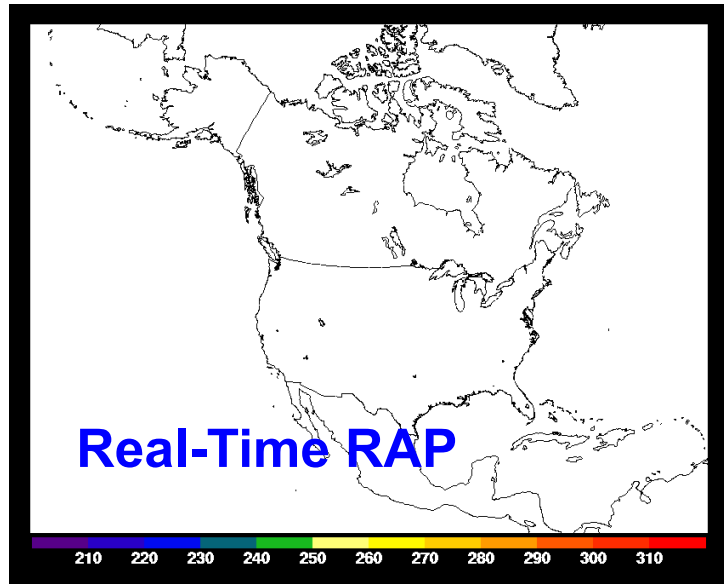
- **AIRS** (remove high-peaking channels)

- Aqua: 68 channels selected from 120 GDAS channel set

- **GOES** (remove high-peaking channels and ozone channel)

- GOES-15 (sndrD1, sndrD2, sndrD3, sndrD4): channels 3-8,10-15

# Real-Time Data Availability -- RARS



18Z May 29, 2013

**RARS = Regional ATOVS  
Retransmission Services**

Assuming +/- 1.5 h time  
window

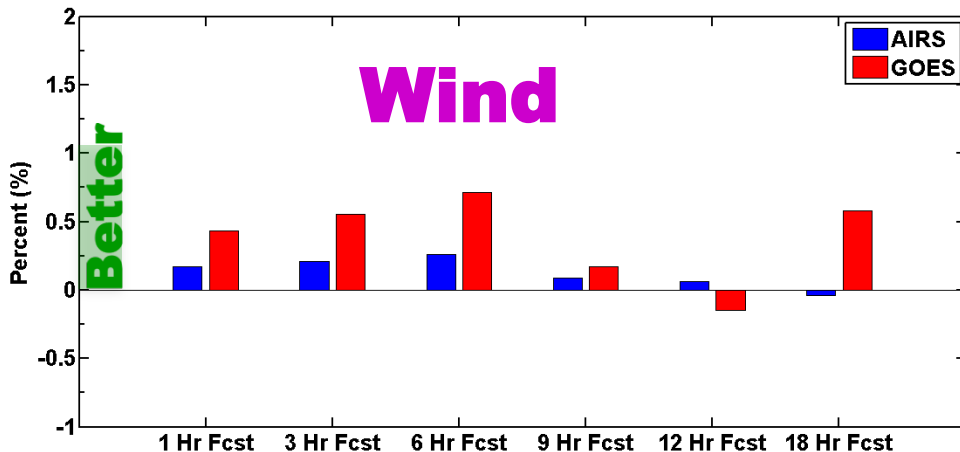
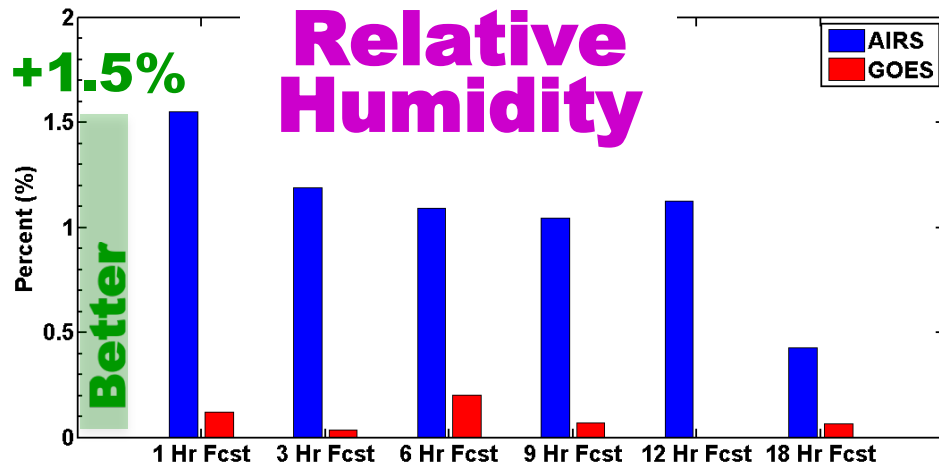
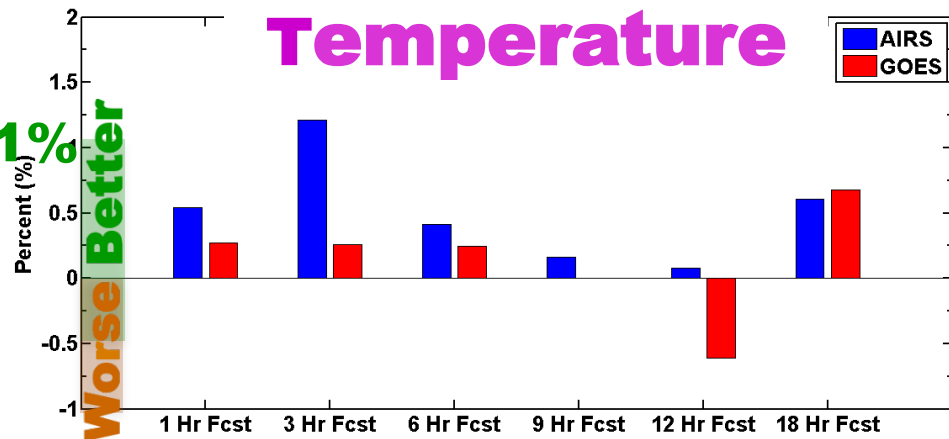
**AMSU-A channel 3 from NOAA\_18**

# Retrospective Experiments

## Set I: new sensors

- **Extensive retro run for bias coefficients spin up**
- **Control run (CNTL) – Conventional data only**
  - 1-h cycling run, 8-day retro run (May 28 – June 4 2012)
  - Hybrid EnKF RAP system
- **AIRS radiance experiment**
  - CNTL + AIRS radiance data (no latency)
  - Using 68 selected channels for RAP
- **GOES radiance experiment**
  - CNTL + real time GOES 15 radiance data (sndrD1,sndrD2,sndrD3, sndrD4)

# Impact from AIRS and GOES data (against raob 100-1000 hPa)



AIRS  
GOES

**Normalize Errors**

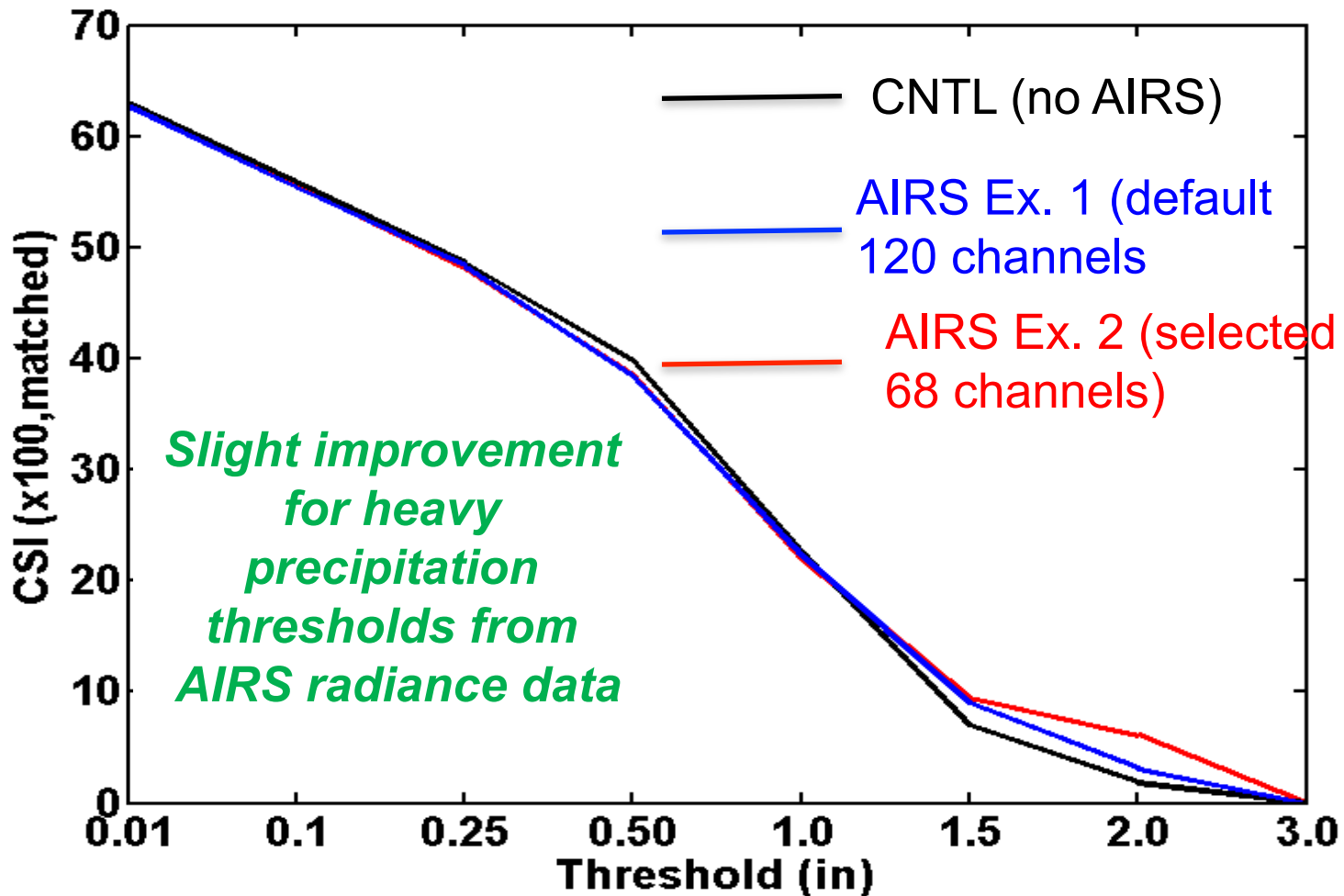
$$E_N = \frac{(CNTL - EXP)}{CNTL}$$

100-1000 hPa RMS mean

May28-June04 2012  
upper-air verification

# 24-h (2 X 12h) CPC Precipitation Verification

**CSI by precip threshold**  
(avg. over eight 24h periods)



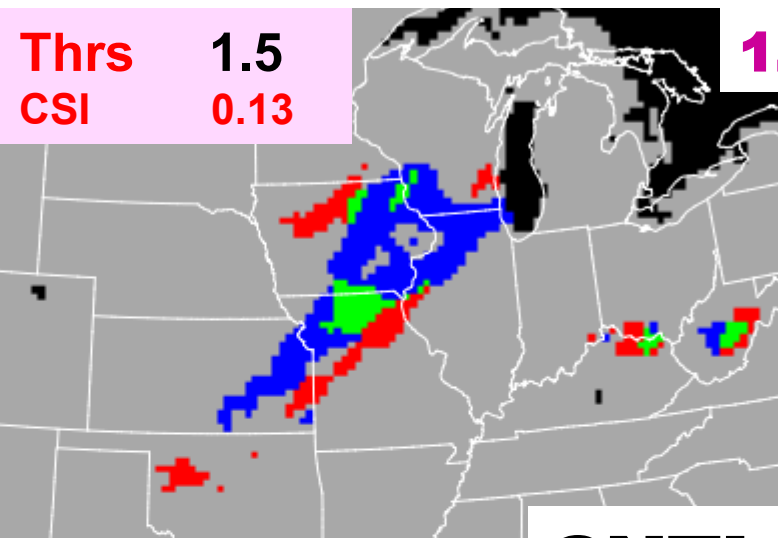
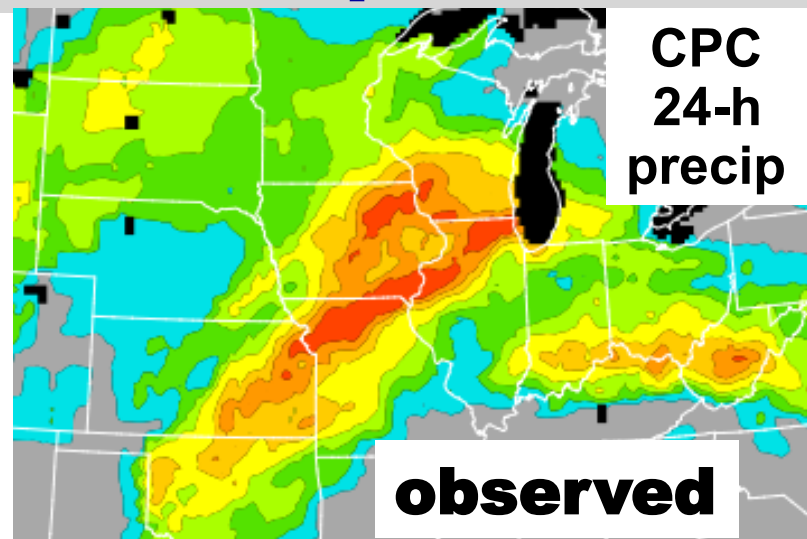
May08-June16 2010

# Sample Precipitation Impact

**CNTL**  
**vs.**  
**AIRS**  
**Ex. 2**  
**24-h**  
**precip.**  
**verif**

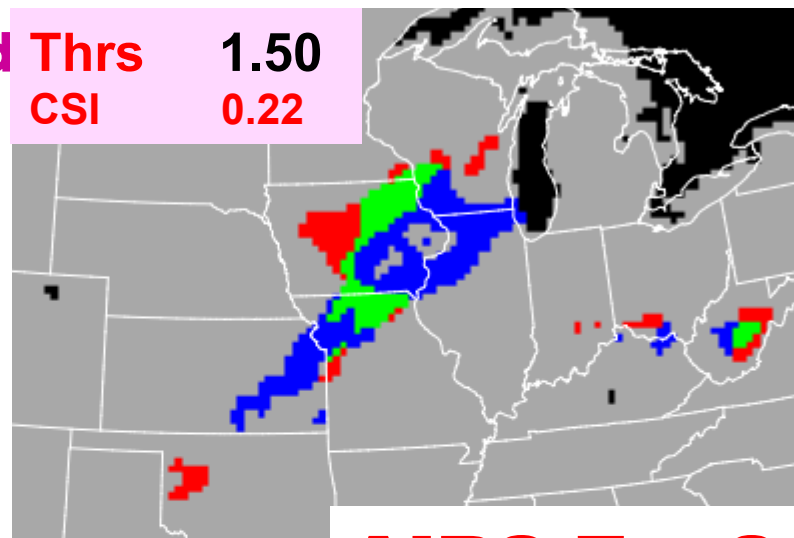
2 x 12h fcst  
ending 12z  
13 May 2010

Verified on  
common  
20-km grid



**CNTL**

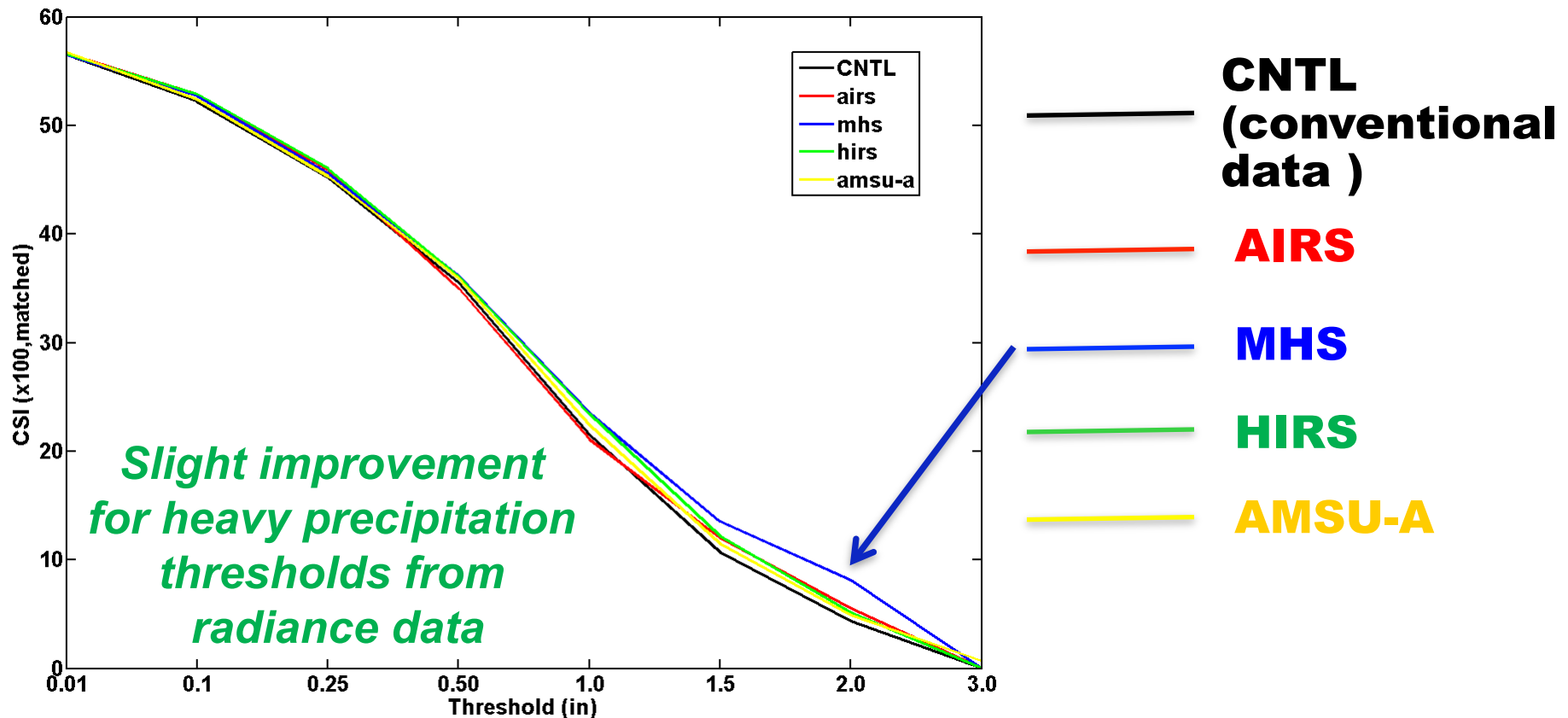
**1.5 " threshold** **Thrs** 1.50  
**CSI** 0.22



**AIRS Ex. 2**

# 24-h (2 X 12h) Precipitation Verification

**CSI by precip threshold**  
(avg. over eight 24h periods)



**MHS data** have largest positive impact  
for heavy precipitation prediction

May08-June16 2010



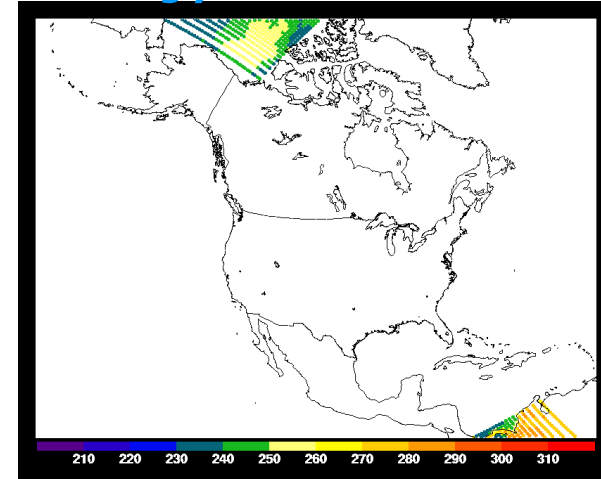
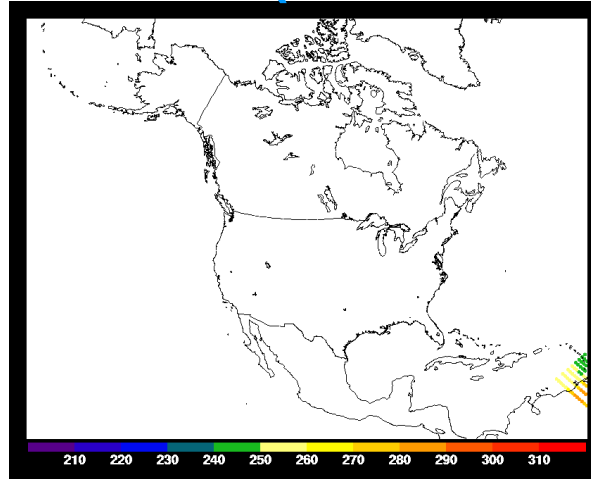
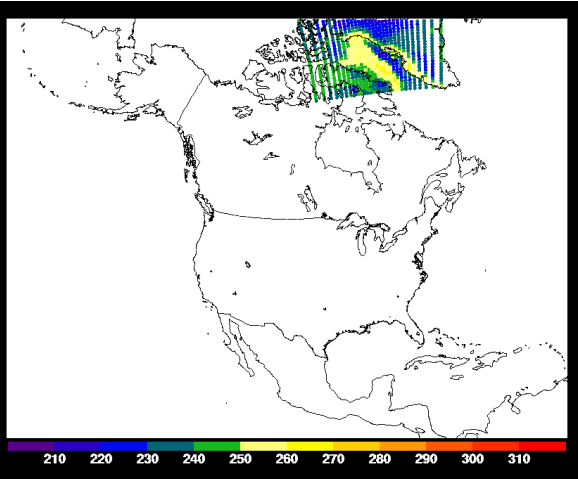
# Retrospective Experiments

## Set II (different data files)

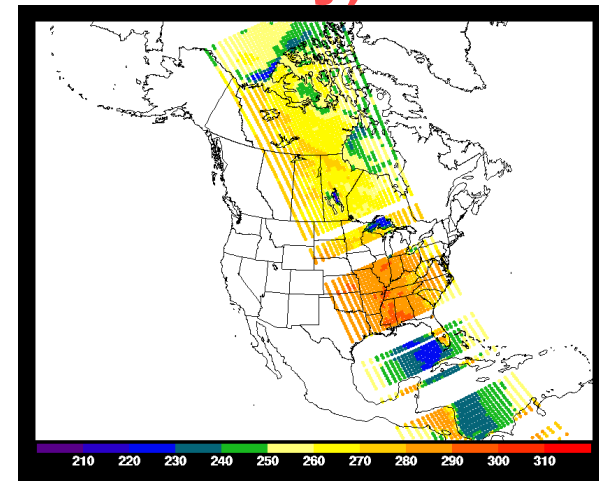
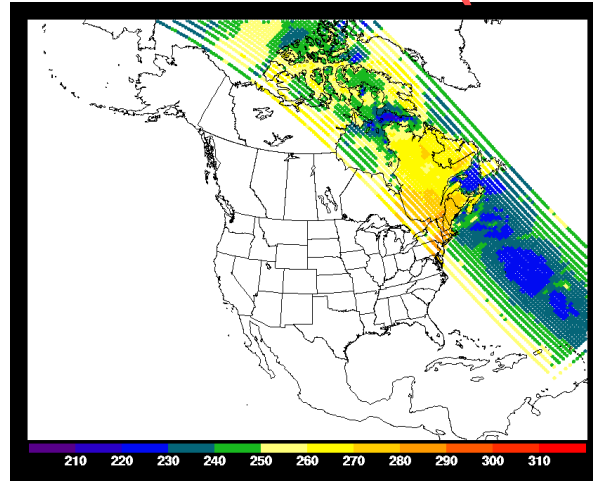
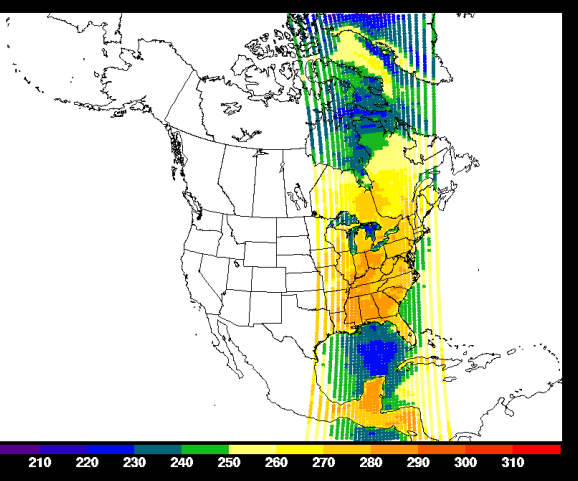
- **Extensive retro run for bias coefficients spin up**
- **Control run (CNTL) – (conventional data only)**
  - 1-h cycling run, 8-day retro run (May 28 – June 4 2012)
  - RAP Hybrid EnKF system
- **Real-time radiance (limited availability)**
  - CNTL + RAP real time radiance data (amsua/mhs/hirs4/goes)
  - Use updated bias coefficients from the extensive retro run
- **RARS + Real-time radiance (better availability)**  
(RARS = Regional ATOVS Retransmission Services)
- **Full coverage radiance (perfect availability)**
  - The same as experiment two but using full data for amsua/mhs/hirs4 (no data latency)

# Coverage comparison for the RARS data and the regular feed data

## Real-time radiance (limited availability)



## RARS + Real-time radiance (better availability)



08Z

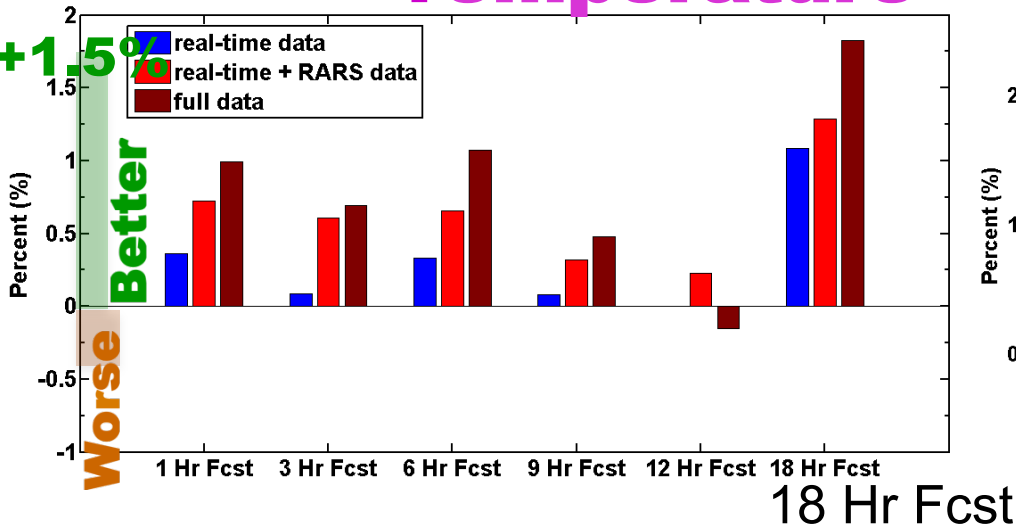
18Z

19Z

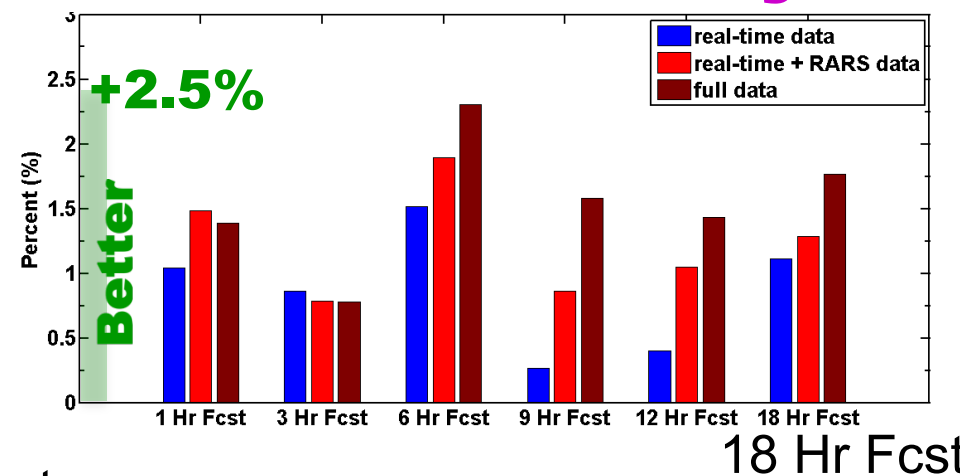
May 29 2012 amsua noaa-19

# Impact from different data sets

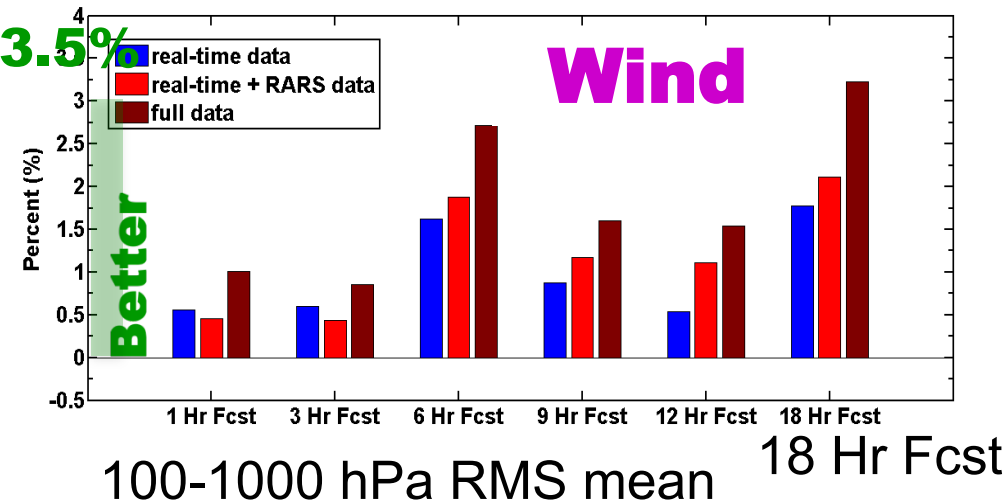
## Temperature



## Relative Humidity



## Wind



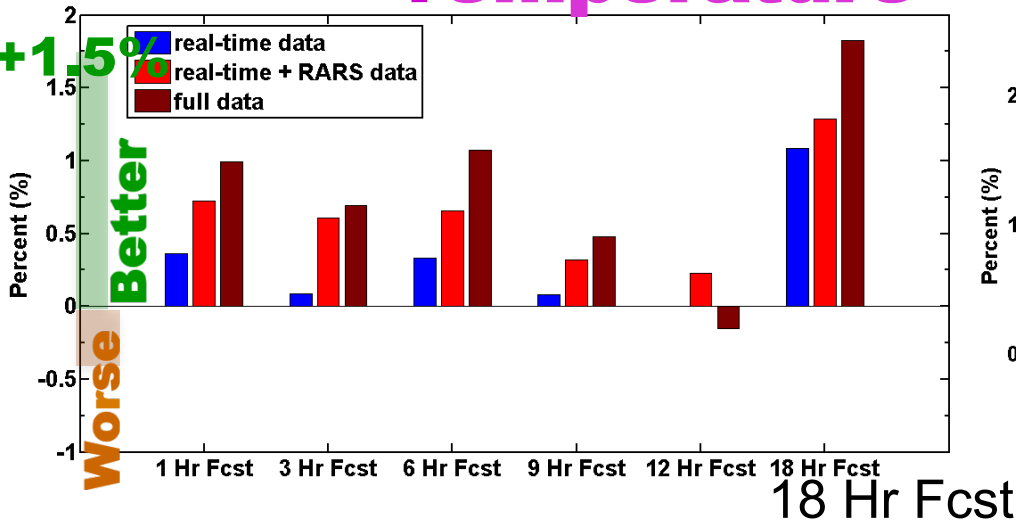
## Normalize Errors

$$E_N = \frac{(CNTL - EXP)}{CNTL}$$

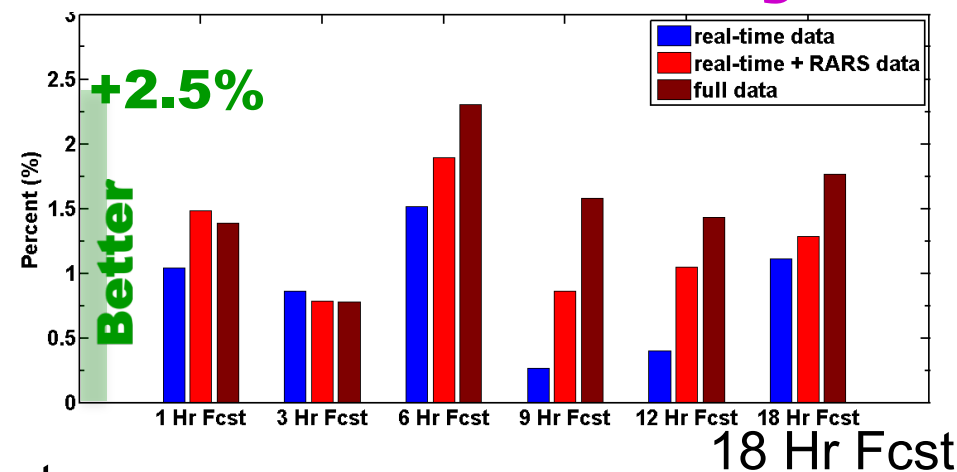
May28-June04 2012 retro runs

# Impact from different data sets

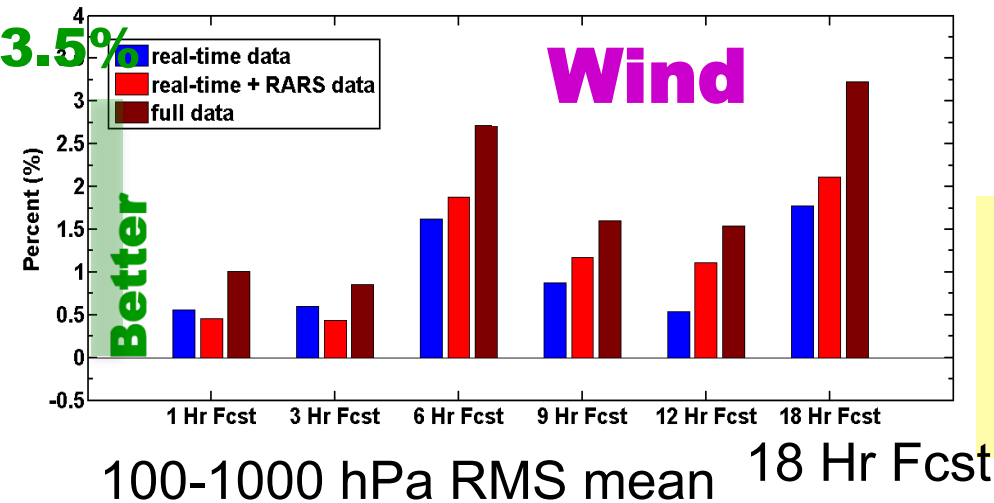
## Temperature



## Relative Humidity



## Wind



Init Hour	11,23z	9,21z	6,18z	3,15z	0,12z	18,6z
Fcst length	1	3	6	9	12	18
Hrs since GFS	2	0	9	6	3	9

GFS partial cycle at 09z and 21z

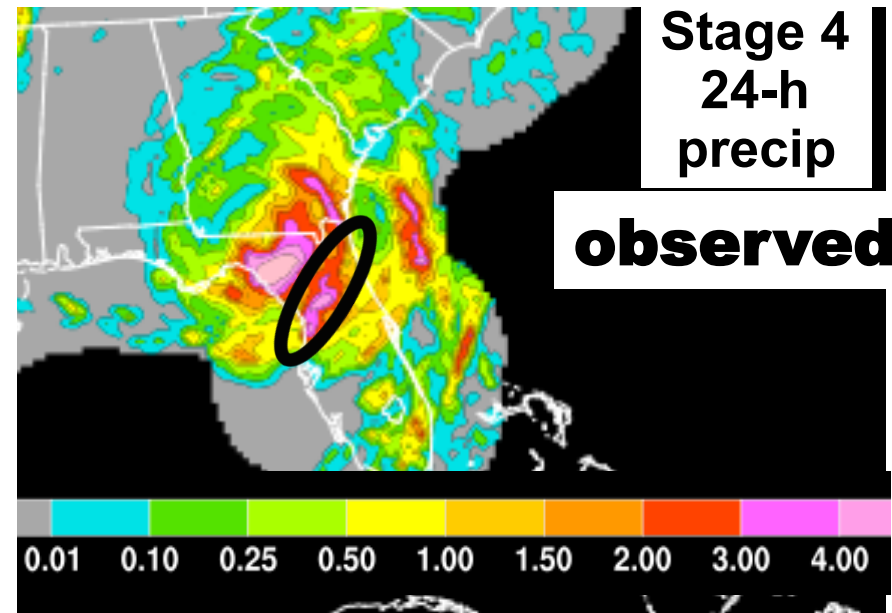
100-1000 hPa RMS mean 18 Hr Fcst

May28-June04 2012 retro runs

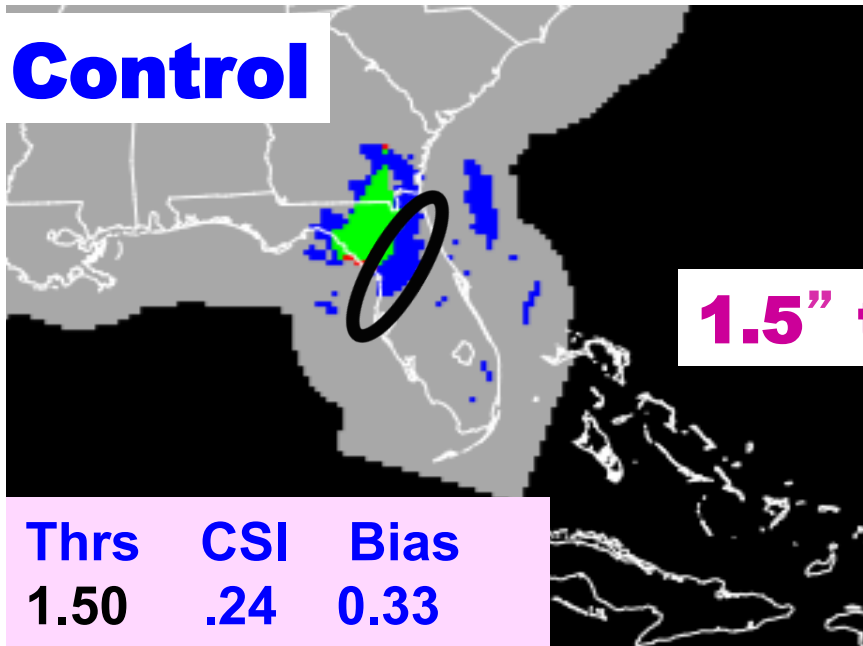
# Precipitation Verification

**Control**  
**vs.**  
**Radiance**  
**(RARS**  
**included)**

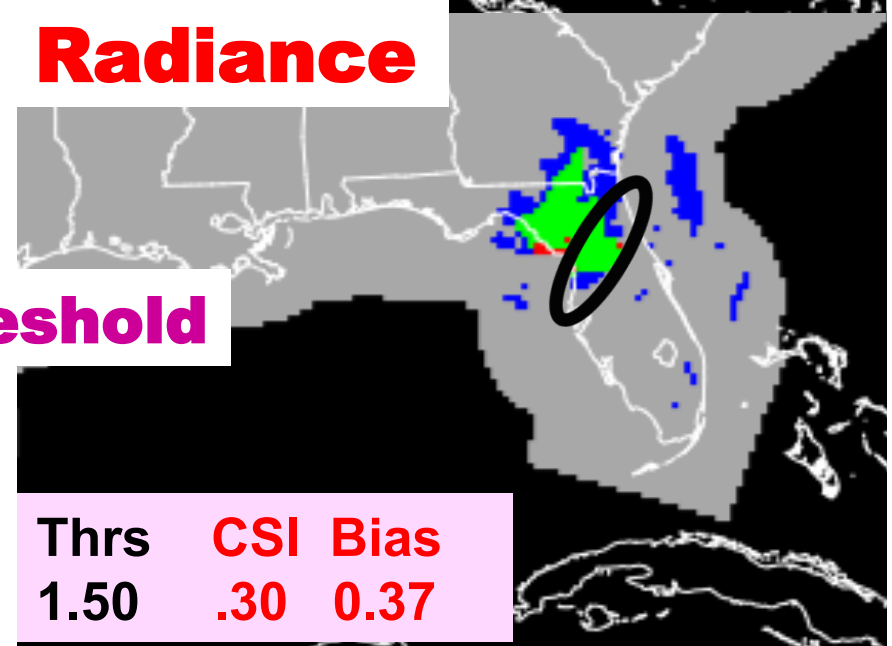
2 x 12h fcst  
ending 12z  
29 May 2012



**Control**



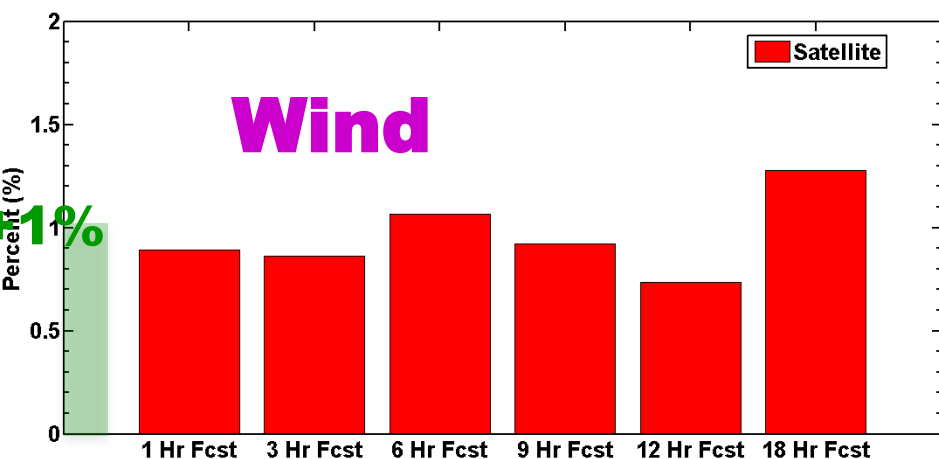
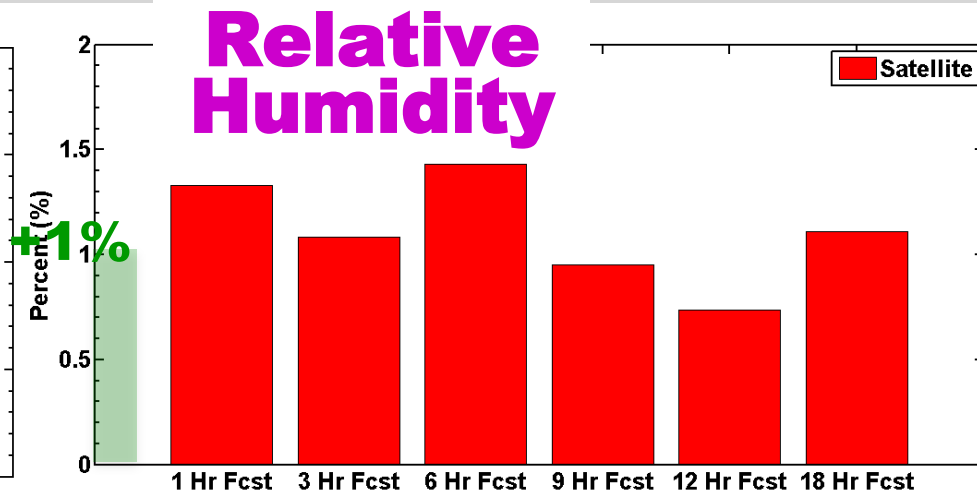
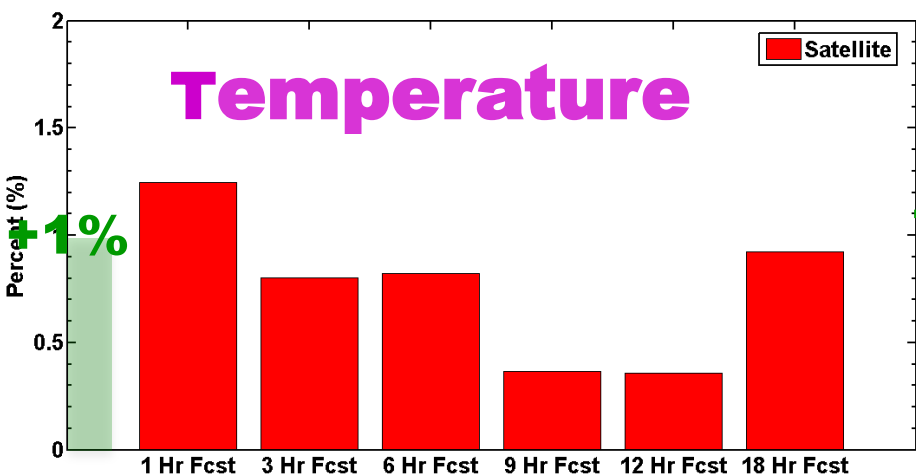
**Radiance**



# Real-time RAP Experiments

- **Real-time** RAP hybrid systems (RAP V2) on Zeus:
  - 1-h cycling with partial cycle
  - real-time data
- **6 month time period**  
*(Jun-July, Oct-Dec, 2013, Jan, 2014)*
- **NO radiance**
  - conventional data only
- **WITH radiance**
  - conventional data + operational used radiance data (AMSU-A, HIRS4, MHS)

# Real-time % improvement from radiance DA



## Radisonde verification

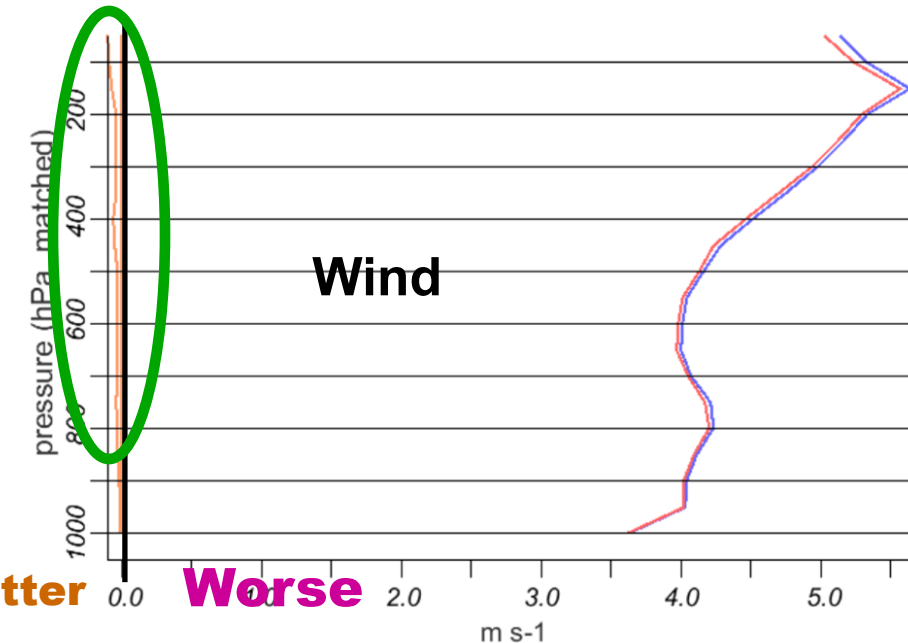
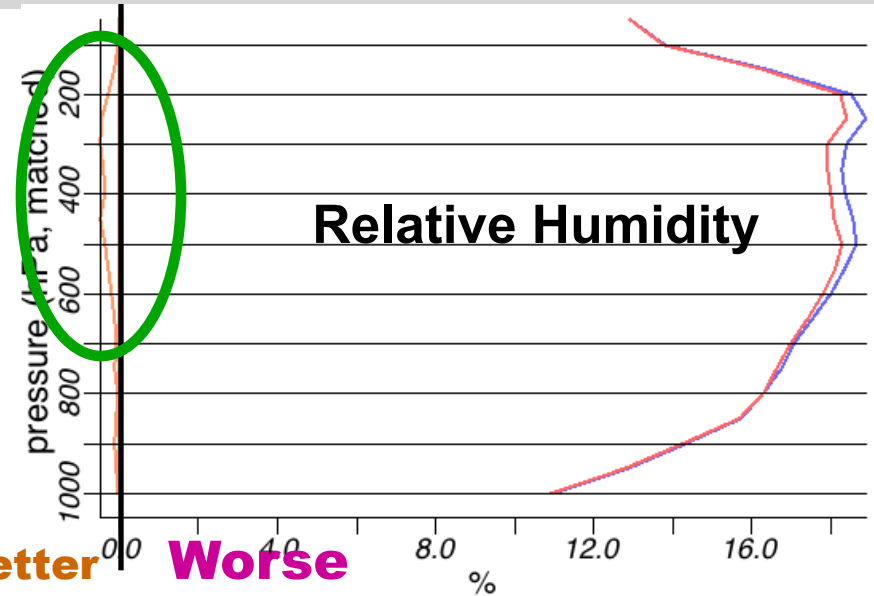
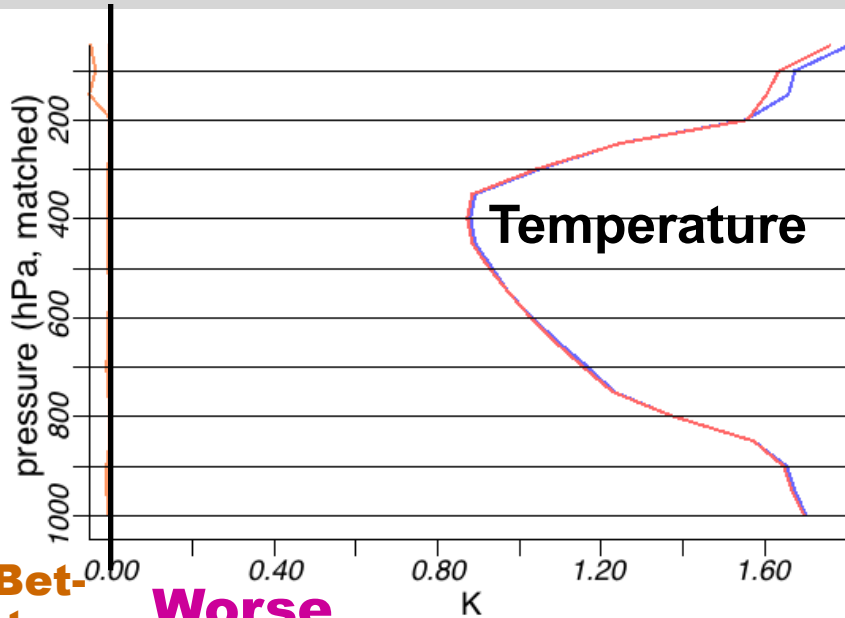
### 6 month REAL-TIME test

Init Hour	11,23z	9,21z	6,18z	3,15z	0,12z	18,6z
Fcst length	1	3	6	9	12	18
Hrs since GFS	2	0	9	6	3	9

GFS partial cycle at 09z and 21z

100-1000 hPa RMS mean

# 6-h Forecast RMS Error



**WITH radiance**

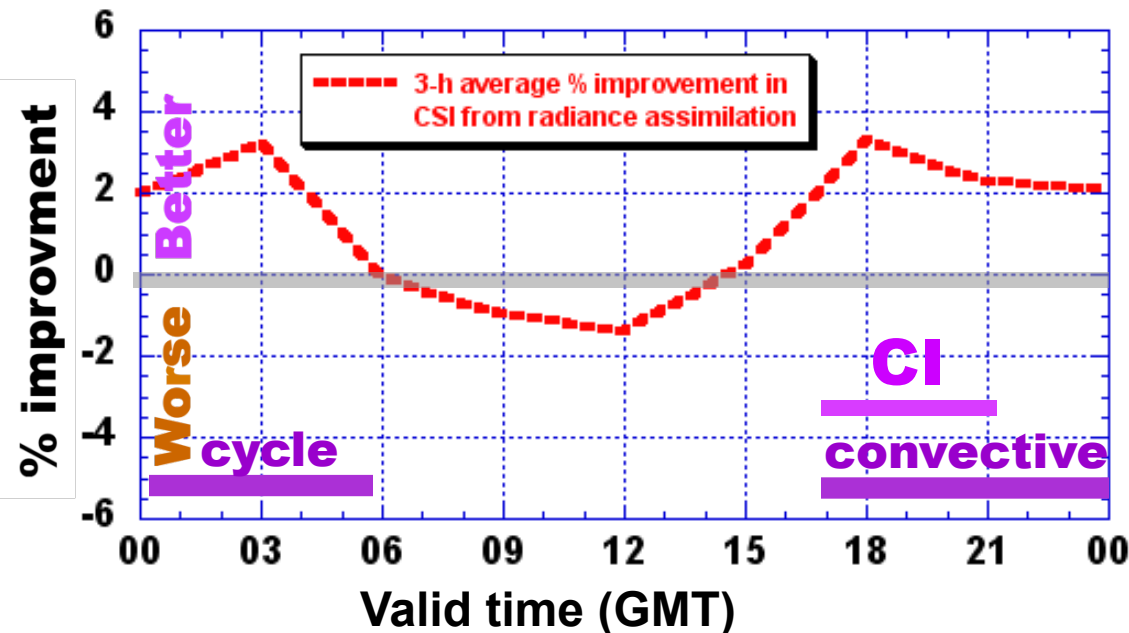
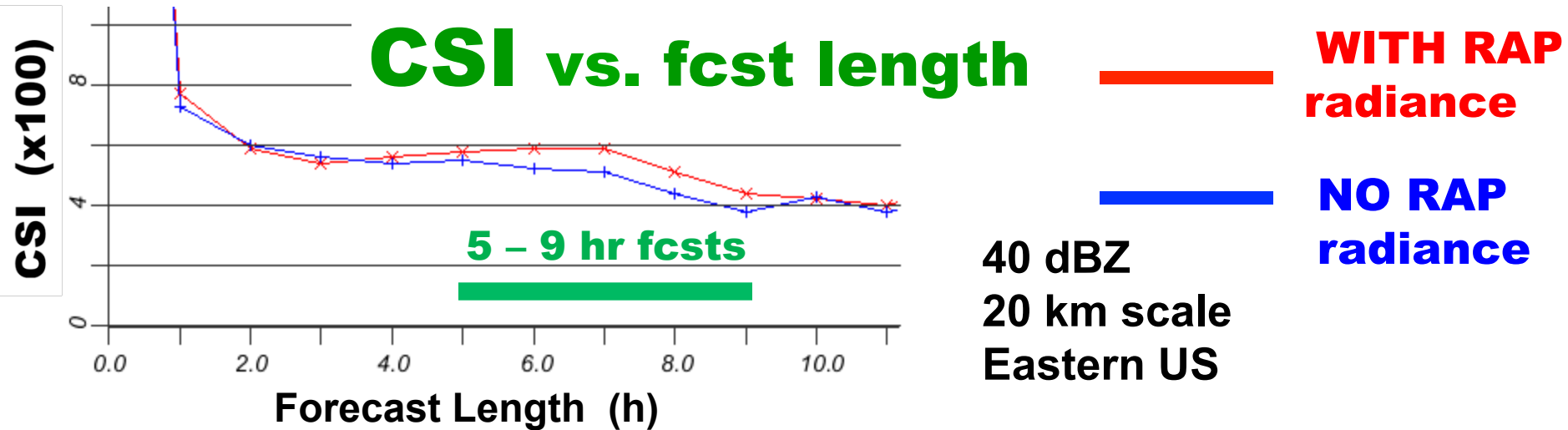
**NO radiance**

upper-air verification

**Real-Time** 6-month average  
(limited data coverage)



# HRRR Radar reflectivity verification



**CSI % improvement from radiance assim vs. valid time of day**  
(all forecast lengths) --  
3 adjacent hourly values averaged to 3-hourly times

30 dBZ  
20 km scale  
CONUS

**May 29 – June 04 2012 (34 HRRR retro runs)**

# Summary of radiance updates for RAP V3

- ◆ Included new sensors/data
  - ◆ GOES sounding data from GOES-15
  - ◆ amsua/mhs from noaa-19 and metop-b;
- ◆ Included the RARS data (Just on Zeus now)
- ◆ Removed some high peaking channels to fit the model top of RAP and removed the ozone channels
- ◆ Implemented the enhanced bias correction scheme with cycling

*Assimilation of satellite radiance data in morning RAP runs improving mesoscale environment, leading to slightly better HRRR forecasts of convective initiation and evolution*

# Conclusions

- AIRS and GOES data have slightly positive impact
- RAP real-time radiance data have slightly positive impact and the RARS data provide additional benefits
- 6-month real time runs showed consistent positive impact (around 1%) from radiance data in RAP
- Recommendations for RAP V3 updates (included)

# Future work

- Other new data (focusing on hyperspectral data)
  - ATMS and CrIS from NPP
  - IASI from metop-a/b
  - ABI from GOES-R
- Increase RAP model top and model levels for better use of hyperspectral data in regional model and better bias correction (for experiment and research purpose)
- Real-time data latency problem:
  - Partial cycle strategy
  - Use direct read out data

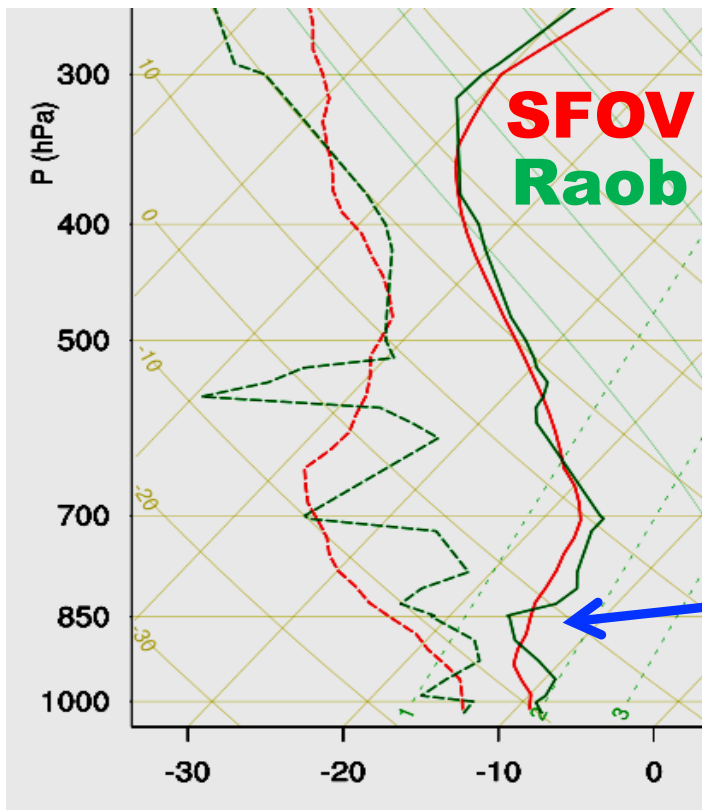


# Assimilation of satellite retrieved soundings

- Single Field of View (SFOV) clear sky soundings derived from CIMSS hyperspectral IR sounder retrieval (CHISR) algorithm (Li et al. 2000)

**Can use all channels in retrievals,  
but retrieved soundings very smooth**

Sample retrieved soundings  
compared to radiosondes



Typical moisture  
and temperature  
biases for SFOV

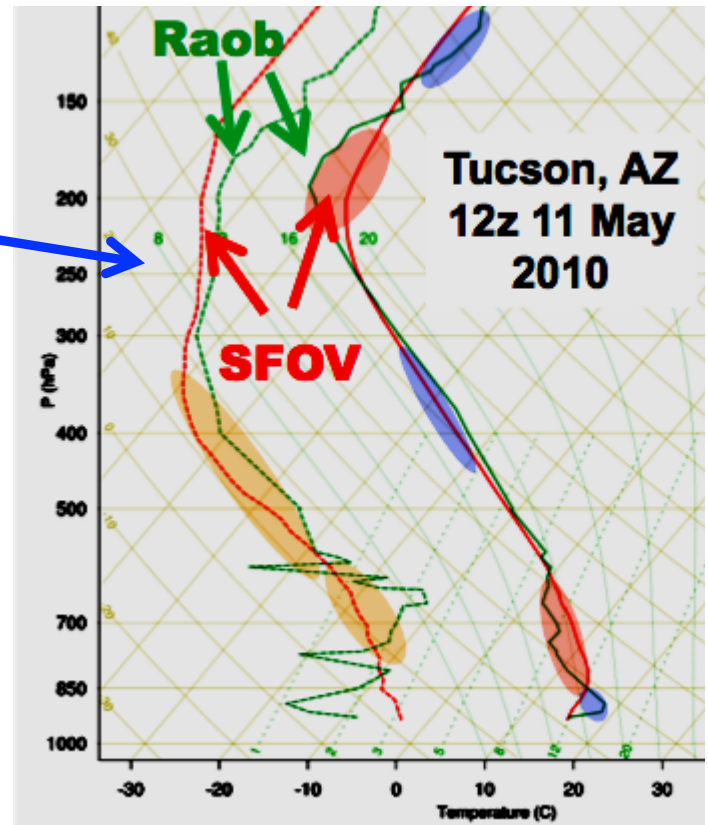
**Dry**



**Warm**

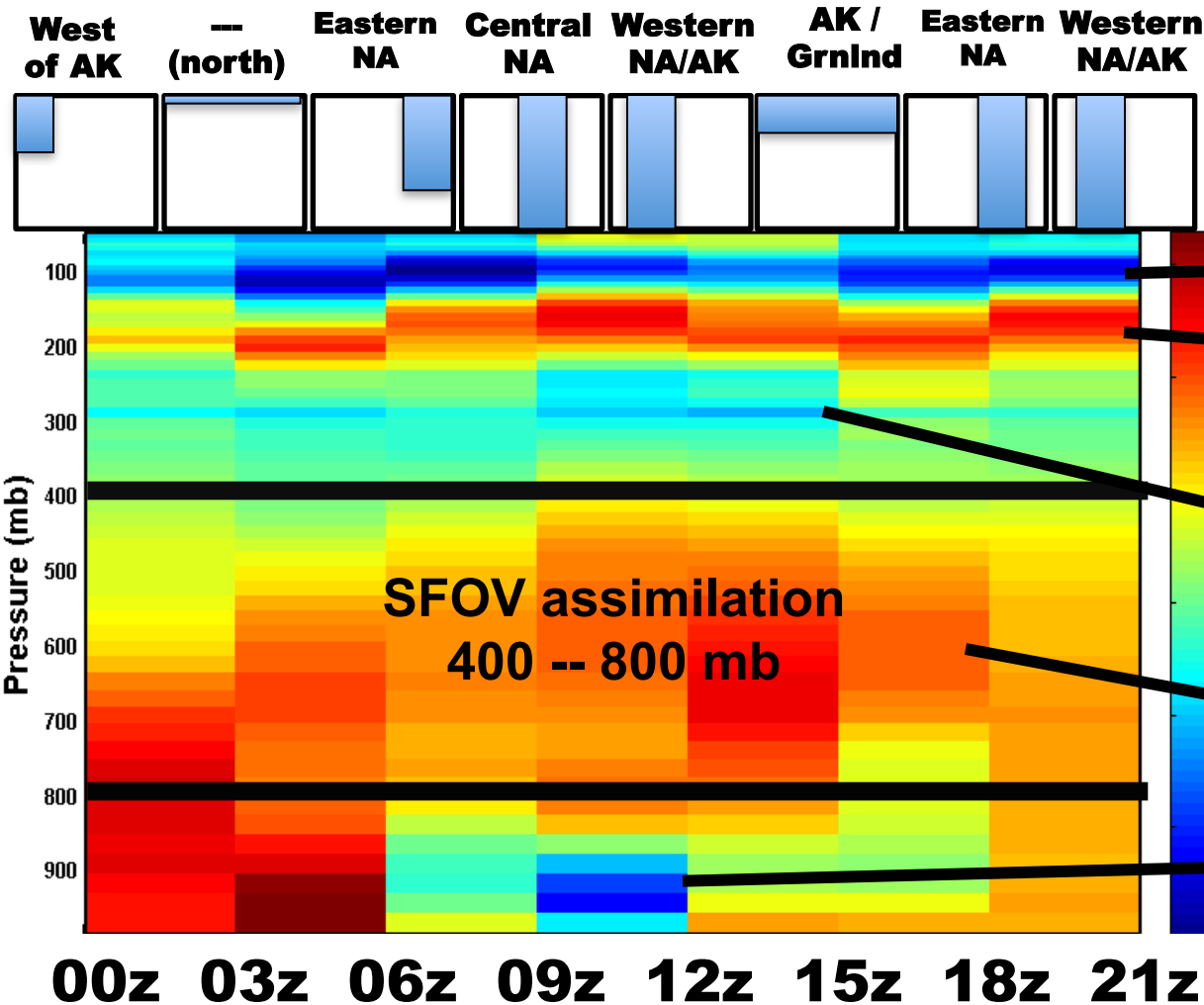


**cold**

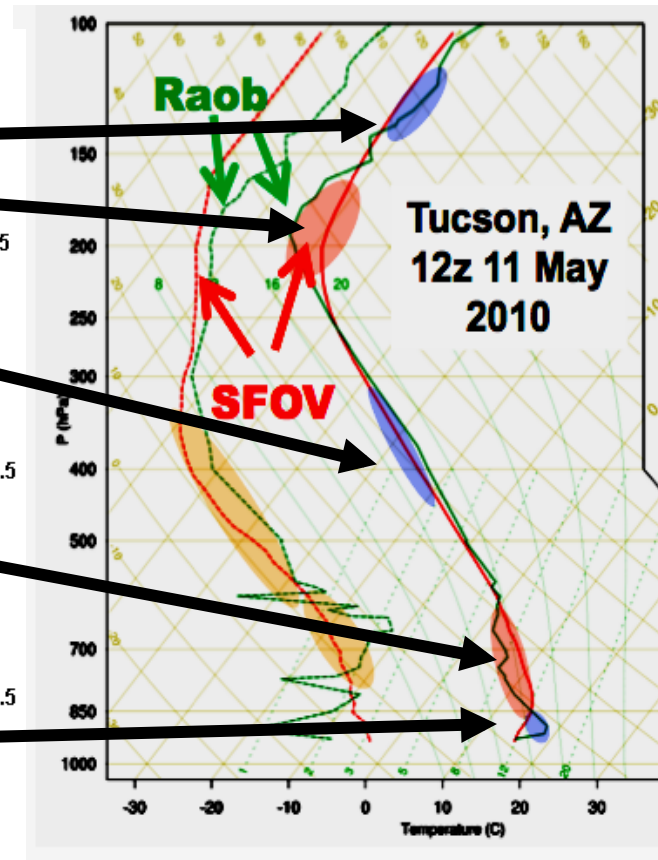


# Diurnal aspects of SFOV T innovations (O-B)

**Mean SFOV T innovations – dependence on height, and time of day (horizontal and daily average)**



**Sample SFOV profiles compared with raobs**



# Estimating fraction of data used

**short data cutoff times** combined with  
**long data availability latency times** leads to  
→ **minimal satellite data availability**

*Fraction of data used given by:*

$$(W/2 - L + C)/W$$

**W** = Data Window Time

**L** = Data Latency Time

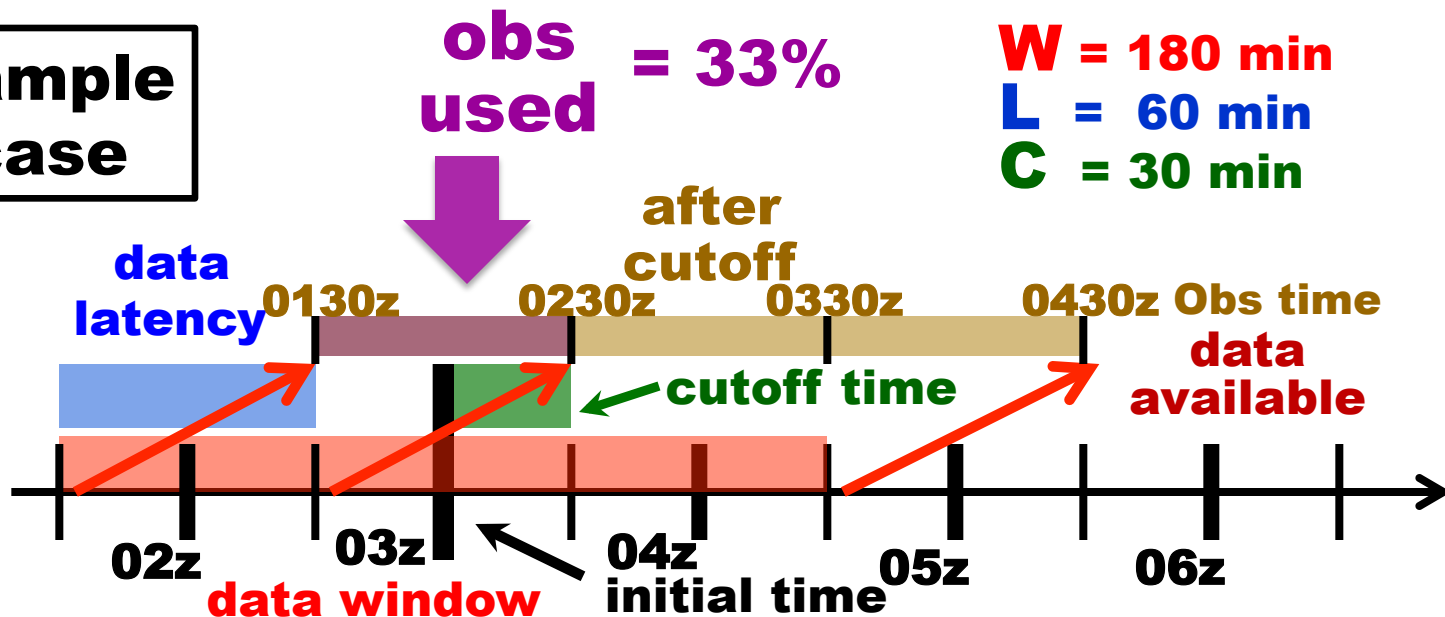
**C** = Data Cutoff Time

**Sample  
case**

**obs  
used** = 33%

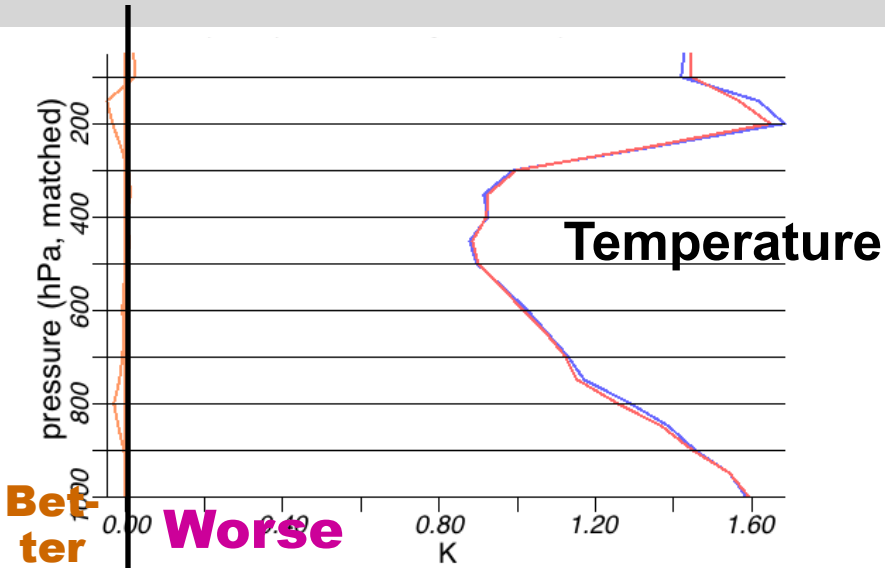
**W** = 180 min  
**L** = 60 min  
**C** = 30 min

Diagram  
and equation  
following  
Steve Lord





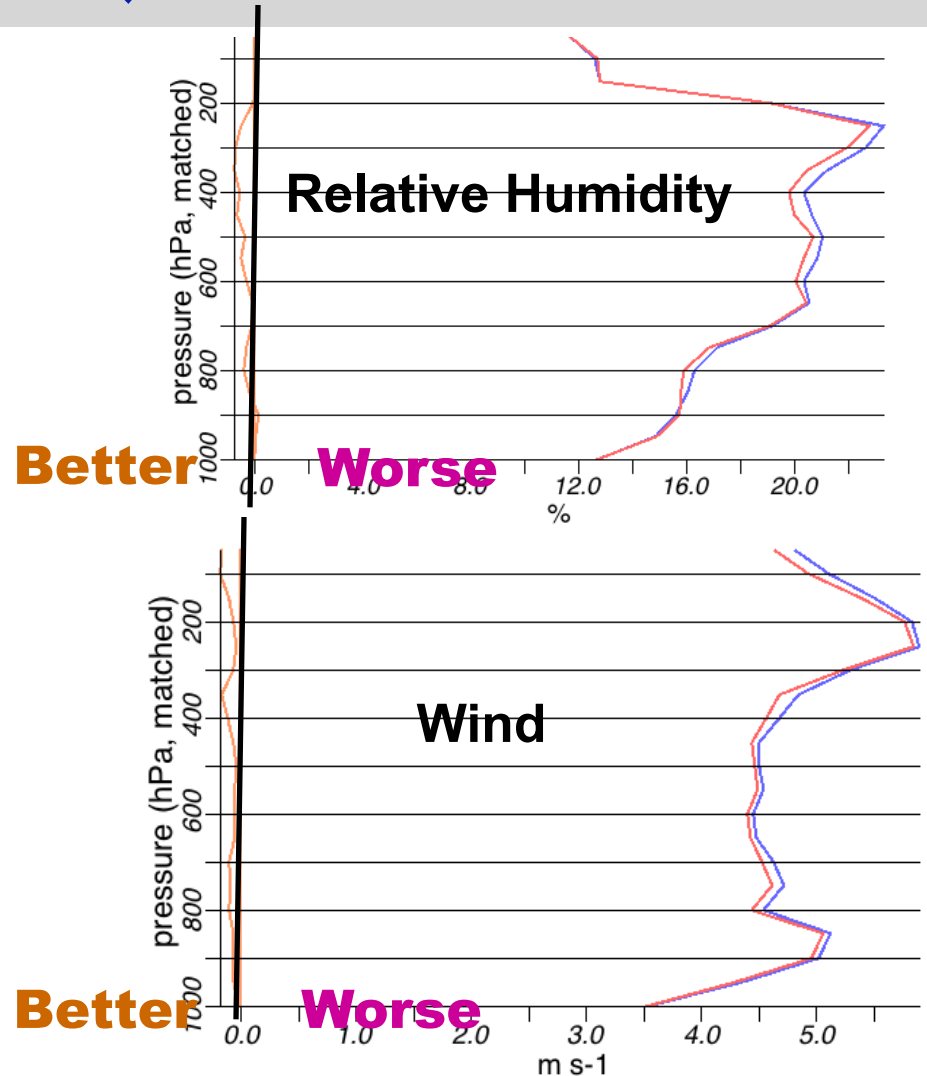
# 6-h Forecast RMS Error (against raob)



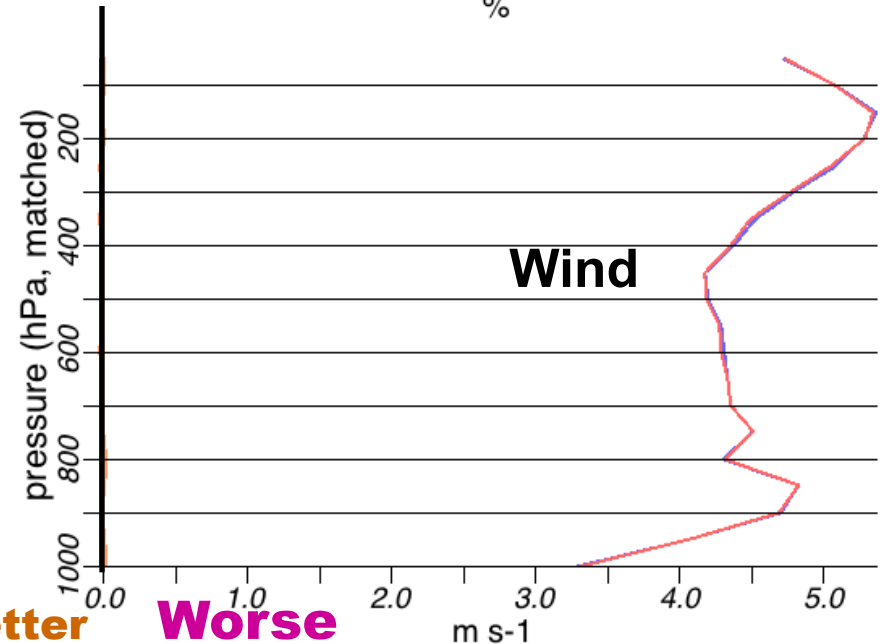
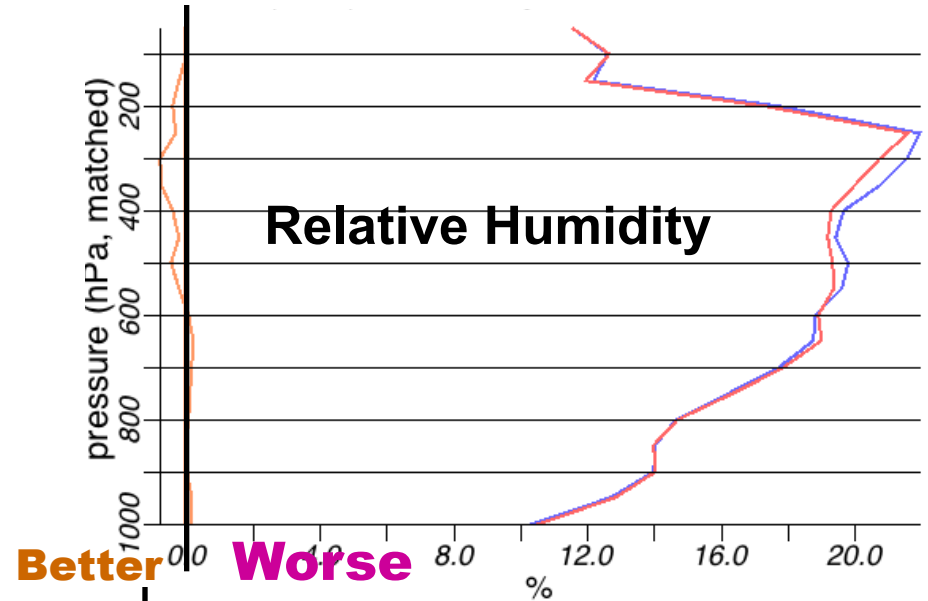
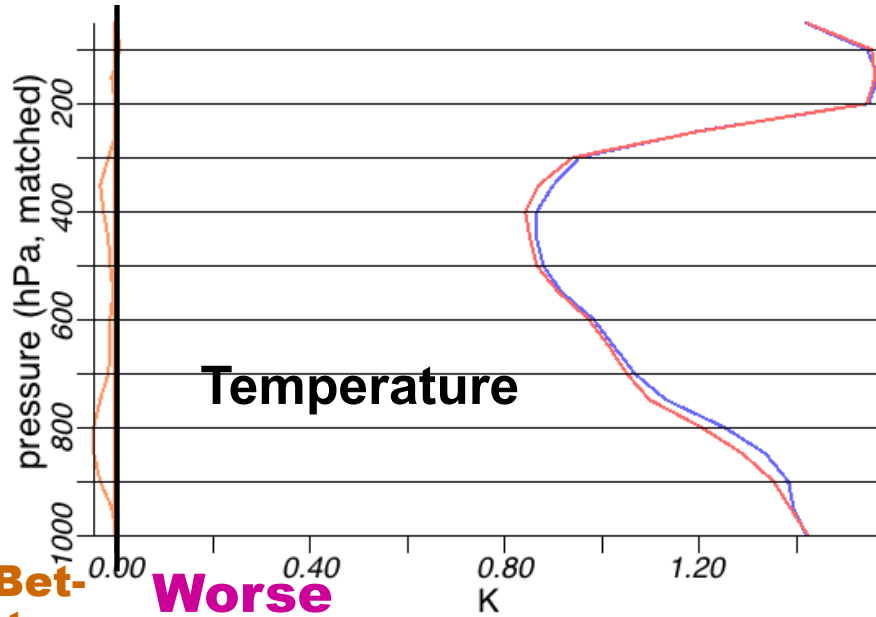
— CNTL  
— Satellite experiment  
one (real-time  
radiance data)

upper-air verification

May28-June04 2012



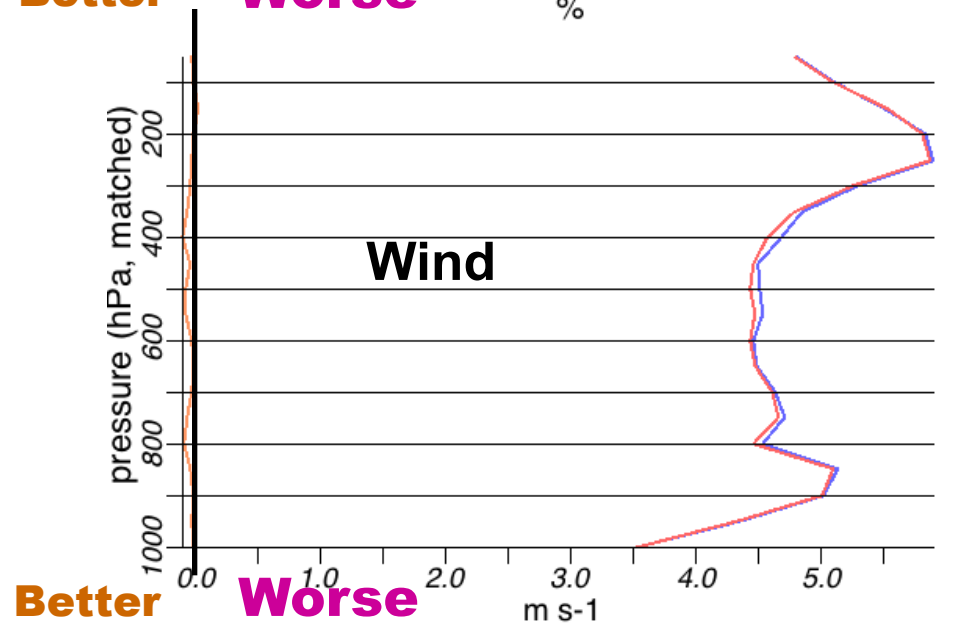
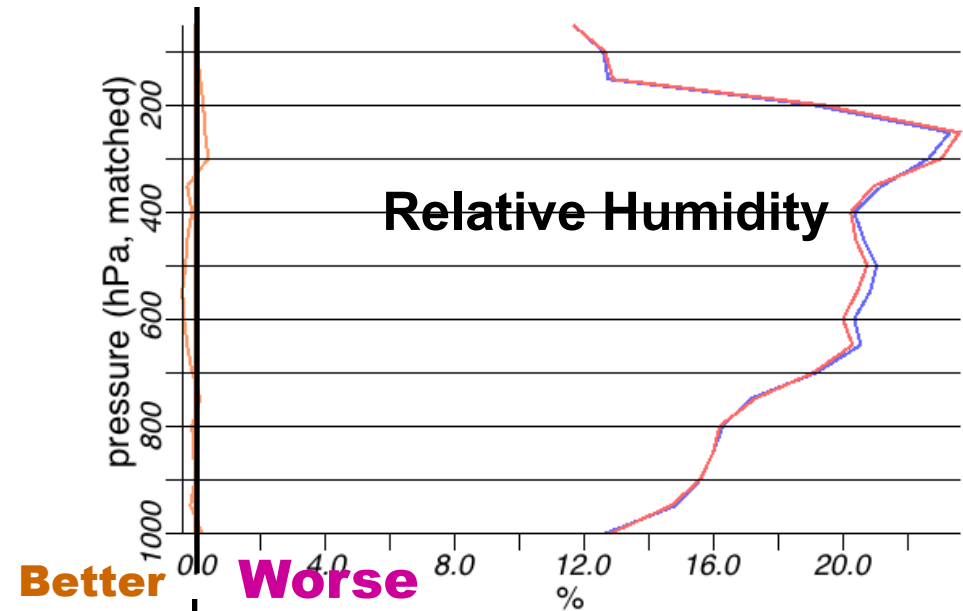
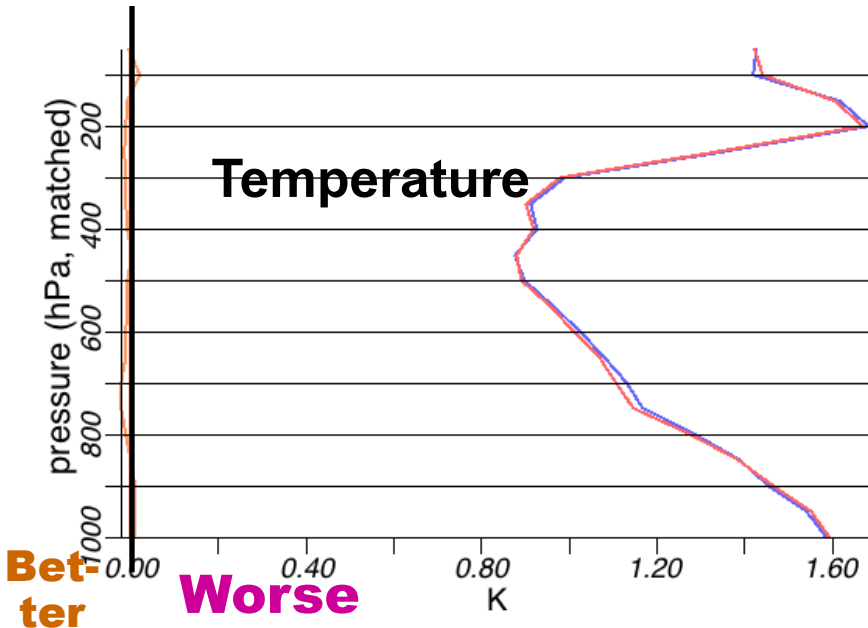
# 3-h Forecast RMS Error (against raob)



upper-air verification

May28-June04 2012

# 6-h Forecast RMS Error (against raob)



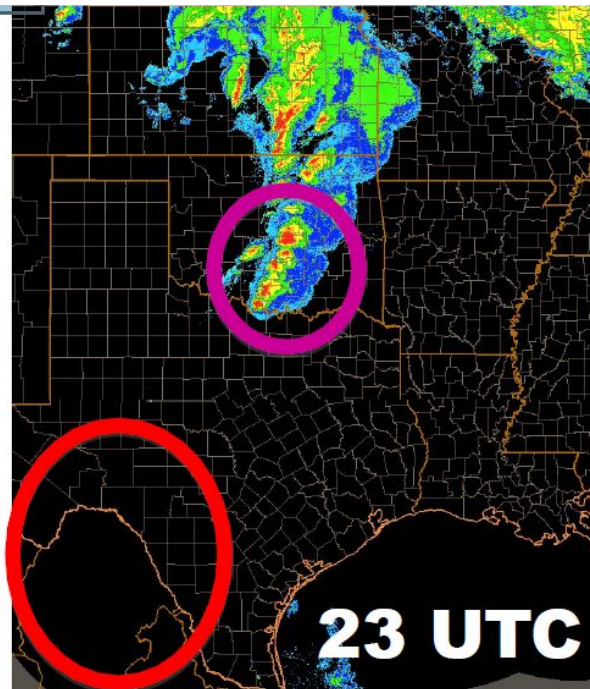
**CNTL**  
**GOES**

upper-air verification

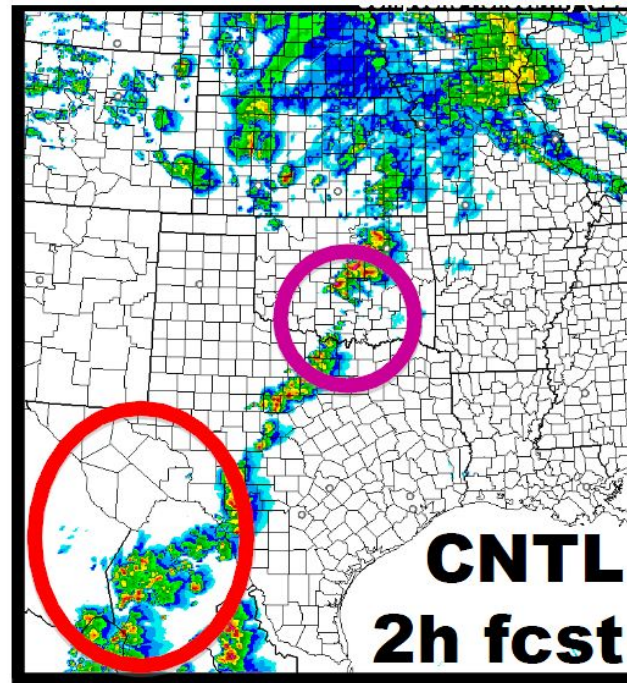
May28-June04 2012

# Reflectivity Comparison

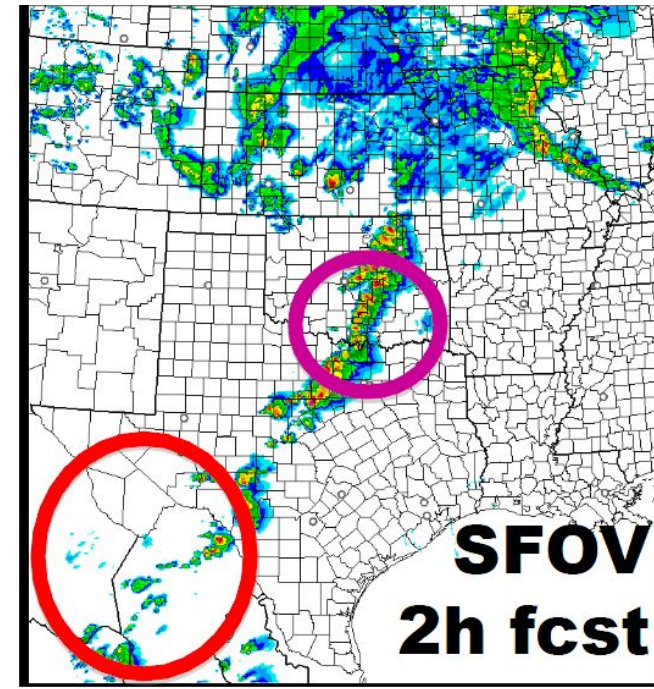
**Use 9Z + 6h fcst valid 15z 30 May 2012 example???**



*Observed radar  
composite  
reflectivity*



*HRRR forecast  
reflectivity initialized  
from control RAP*



*HRRR forecast  
reflectivity initialized  
from AIRS SFOV RAP  
run*

# Channel selection because of low model top

## Jacobian calculation in CRTM to find problem channels

- The CRTM K-matrix model (Jacobian model) computes the radiance derivatives with respect to the input-state variables, such as temperature and gas concentration
- Forward model  $R = F(x)$
- TL model  $R_{TL} = Hx_{TL}$
- AD model  $x_{AD} = H^T R_{AD}$
- K-matrix model  $x_k = [h_1 R_{K,1}, h_2 R_{K,2}, \dots, h_m R_{K,m}]$
- $R_{K,i}$  is the input K-matrix radiance input variable and  $h_i$  is the transpose of the  $i$ th row of the H matrix:

$$h_i = \left[ \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial x_n} \right]^T$$

- Setting  $R_{K,i} = 1$  for  $(i=1, \dots, m)$ , the matrix  $x_k$  returned from the K-matrix model contains the Jacobians



